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Student Advisory Council and Attorney General Hold Forum

By Madeleine Philips
Staff Writer

The Student Advisory Council of the Attorney General's Office held an open forum on November 18, 1999 in the Alexander Room of the Elliott University Center. The main focus of the forum was the UNCG Police Department's conduct in regards to accusations of police brutality and racism in the "Baseball Stadium" and the "Midnight Madness" incidents.

Another issue brought up was police and university protocol in dealing with complaints. Lieutenant Harry?? and Det. Lancaster??? from the Police Department, Representatives from the Attorney General's Office, and Dr. James Lancaster, Assistant

Vice Chancellor were present to answer questions.

Tabitha O'Conner, Attorney General for the Student Government Association opened the forum by expressing what her Office does and her intentions of what she wanted to do with this forum. The forum was made as a stepping stone in forming a Student Advisory Committee which deals with important issues on campus. She also expressed how her department is made to help students with their cases when they are facing academic or police conduct charges against them. She also said that students face problems with the university because they don't know the policies and procedures and what you can be held accountable for.

(John ????) who was involved in the Baseball Stadium Incident asked the panel questions in regards to how his case was dealt and how he didn't know he could complain in the way he was treated by the police. (.....Lester, Lead Investigator in Internal affairs of the Criminal Information Divi-

sion answered the question by briefly describing how a person can file a complaint at the police department.

He also said that a lot of people are reluctant to complain, "They will call up and make a casual statement, but they won't come in, submit forms, or go through the process." He says he can't do anything if there aren't any complaints charged and "....being unhappy is just not enough for us to take action (against officers)." Dr. Lancaster also said that grievances can be filed at the Office of Student Affairs.

Another question was brought up in how a person charged with a crime can be informed that they can make a formal complaint. According University Protocol, a student that is charged with something receives a letter of notice telling them to contact the Office of Student Affairs for help with their case. (John ???) suggested that a statement should be made in that letter stating that one could file a complaint against an officer(s). Dr. Lancaster agreed with this suggestion and said that he would implement it.

Many people had questions regarding the "Midnight Madness" incident in respect to allegations of racism and offensive conduct of the police. Harry?? admitted that the police officers may not have behaved appropriately, but not racially. He then said that he needed to train his officers in how to deal with large groups of people and people of different backgrounds so that an incident like "Midnight Madness" never would happen again.

Part of this training entails the use of and the co-operation of student organizations. They would use the organizations to simulate how officers should deal with students and then the students can

do role reversal, so that they know what the police officer experiences when dealing with students. Lieutenant Harry??? said that he has already done an activity like this with the "Brother to Brother" organization. Olique Williams?, a student suggested that the police department should incorporate all minority organizations such as SALSA, ASIA, Native American Association, and the Neo Black Society into their training. And that it was a good start to opening the lines of communication between the police and the students.

Student Zachary Moll (moore (mull) asked questions in respect to how many officers are used when large student functions are held. He claimed that there were more at African-American functions than at Caucasian. Det. Lancaster responded by saying that the number of police officers present at functions depends on the number of guests, where it is, when it is, and if they requested more officers to cover the function.

The forum ended by agreeing that the Police Department does have some policies and procedures to work on, but so does the campus. In order to create harmony between the two, there has to be understanding from both ends. Also, that unless you complain and get involved in organizations changes won't be met. It mostly depends on student involvement and interest in how the campus is run.

The next Student Advisory Council open forum will be held next semester. To contact the Attorney General's Office for further information and involvement call: 336-334-5720 Pamphlets that describe the rules and regulations of the University can be picked up at the Office of Student Affairs, located at the Elliott University Center.....

A website of the same information can be found at <http://>

UNCG RECEIVES GRANT TO STUDY ECONOMIC EFFECTS ON INDIVIDUAL DRINKING BEHAVIOR

University News Service

GREENSBORO--Earlier research on drinking behavior and economic conditions found that when times are good people drink more, but Dr. Christopher J. Ruhm of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro wants to determine why.

Ruhm, the Jefferson-Pilot Excellence Professor of Economics at UNCG and a former senior economist with President Bill Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers, has received a \$125,034 two-year grant from the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to study whether there are differences in drinking behavior based on age, race, sex or whether a person is a heavy or light drinker.

"The previous analysis I did looked at the effect of macroeconomic conditions, such as state unemployment rates, on total alcohol consumption in the state, but without being able to tell who was doing the drinking," said Ruhm, who specializes in labor economics and health economics. "Here

we're looking at these macro-economic conditions, but at the effects on individuals."

Ruhm's research will use a survey administered by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a state-based survey that asks a common set of questions.

"For this project we'll use specific information on drinking behavior, such as: Did you drink in the last 30 days? If you drank, how many alcoholic beverages did you consume?" Ruhm said.

Economic factors seem to matter when it comes to drinking, and Ruhm wants to determine who is most at-risk during good economic times.

"If it's mainly working people who drink more in good times, companies might want to think about employee assistance programs or other workplace interventions, and this research could be helpful in targeting those individuals," Ruhm said. "This research will increase our understanding of the determinants of alcohol use and

abuse, improve our ability to focus prevention efforts on those groups at greatest risk and enable us to more accurately measure the costs to society of alcoholism and problem drinking."

Ruhm spent a year in Washington, D.C., as a senior economist with the Council of Economic Advisers. He has conducted extensive research on the economic consequences of alcohol and illegal drug policies, the causes and effects of job displacements, the transition process into retirement and the effects of parental leave policies. Ruhm is the coauthor of the book "Turbulence in the American Workplace" and has written more than 40 articles for journals such as the American Economic Review, Review of Economics and Statistics, the Journal of Health Economics and the Journal of Labor Economics.

He came to UNCG's Department of Economics in 1991 and received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

NURSING PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

News Service Contact: Deborah Durkee, 336-334-5371

GREENSBORO--The aging of America has required a change in the focus of nursing education, and the gerontology program in the School of Nursing at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro has received national recognition in that area.

The school received one of three Awards for Exceptional Curriculum in Gerontologic Nursing from the John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing at New York University and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. The honors were presented at the semi-annual meeting of AACN in Washington, D.C., in October.

"These awards honor models of excellence that encourage the highest standards for preparing nurses to deliver quality care to the fastest growing segment of

the U.S. population," said AACN President Andrea R. Lindell. "Geriatric care skills will increasingly become part of every nurse's repertoire." Runner-up honors were shared with the University of Maryland.

"We are delighted to be able to foster and showcase nursing schools in the forefront of meeting their responsibilities to adequately prepare students through outstanding geriatric curricula," said Mathy Mezey, professor of nursing education and director of the Hartford Institute at NYU.

The School of Nursing at UNCG has required and elective gerontology courses which use a variety of Web-based activities to stimulate student learning.

"These activities challenge students to examine their attitudes toward aging and encourage critical thinking about aging issues," said Dr. Lynne Pearcey, dean of the School of Nursing at UNCG.

Student clinical experiences occur in nursing homes, retirement centers, subsidized housing and acute care centers. The focus is on high-level wellness, the older person's individual strengths, and supports of the aging network in the community. Students pair with six to eight elders in the community for a semester, thereby having the opportunity to access individuals in depth and over time.

The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at NYU seeks to shape the quality of the health care elderly Americans receive by promoting the highest level of competency in nurses who deliver that care. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing is the national voice for university and four-year college education programs in nursing, representing more than 500 member schools of nursing at public and private institutions nationwide.

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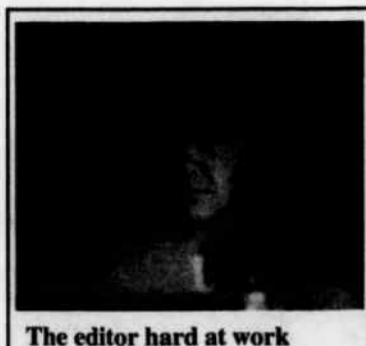
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The editor hard at work

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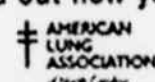


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FIRST GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM IN THE STATE BEING IMPLEMENTED HERE AT UNCG

University News Service

GREENSBORO--The state's first graduate program in genetic counseling, an emerging field that will involve clinical training at the state's medical schools, is being implemented at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The new program, leading to the Master of Science degree, will be one of only 23 such programs in the United States, in addition to being North Carolina's first, according to Dr. Brad Bartel, dean of the graduate school at UNCG. Directing the program will be Nancy Callanan, who has joined UNCG from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine.

Applications are being accepted in the Graduate School (336-334-5596) through Jan. 25, 2000, and the first courses will be offered during the fall semester of the 2000-01 year.

"At UNCG, we are delighted to offer the state's only graduate program in genetic counseling," said Chancellor Patricia A. Sullivan. "This exciting program is multidisciplinary in its approach and will combine the expertise and instruction of our faculty with intensive clinical training. It is the kind of new program that UNCG will continue to provide for the state in the future as we move closer to our vision of being a leading student-centered university, linking the Piedmont Triad to the world through learning, discovery and service."

The program will run full-time for two years, plus summer work, to prepare students to practice as genetic counselors in a variety of specialty areas that include prenatal, pediatric, adult, and cancer genetics, said Bartel. It has been designed in accordance with guidelines of provided by the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC). UNCG is already working to acquire initial accreditation by the Board.

"Applicant interest in this innovative program is already high," said Bartel. "One significant reason is the unique interdisciplinary program at UNCG combined with clinical practice at all of the medical schools of the state."

At UNCG, students will take courses in the Department of Counseling and

Educational Development, Department of Biology, Department of Public Health Education, Department of Philosophy and the School of Nursing. The counselor education program, housed in the School of Education, was named the best doctoral program in the nation in 1991 and 1994 by the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. A total of 57 credit hours is required for graduation, including course work, laboratory experience and clinical internships. Students also will be required to complete a research project as the culminating experience for the degree.

"Genetic counseling is a relatively new, rapidly expanding and evolving allied health profession," said Callanan. "This program represents a chance for students in the state to pursue careers in this field. It will be affiliated with the state's largest medical centers

"The most enjoyable thing about genetic counseling is that it's a helping profession. Genetic counselors are people who take research and turn it into information that can be useful for people who are trying to understand more about their genetic risks and genetic predispositions. In their work, they are educators, counselors and patient advocates and clinicians. The work is very meaningful and very satisfying."

Callanan received her M.S. in genetic counseling from the nation's oldest program at Sarah Lawrence College. She said that genetic counselors are health professionals with specialized graduate degrees and experience in the areas of medical genetics and counseling. Most enter the field from a variety of disciplines, including biology, genetics, nursing, psychology, public health and social work. Career opportunities are excellent, according to Callanan, who said the average salary is approximately \$38,000 annually after five years experience in the field. There are only 1,300 or so certified genetic counselors currently practicing in the United States.

Clinical rotations will be conducted at three primary sites: the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Duke University Medical Center in Durham and Wake

Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem. Summer rotation sites are the Fullerton Genetics Clinic in Asheville and East Carolina University School of Medicine in Greenville. In addition, clinical experiences will be provided through the Moses Cone Health Care Systems.

In the field, genetic counselors work as members of a health care team, providing information and support to families who have members with birth defects or genetic disorders, and to families that may be at risk for a variety of inherited conditions. They identify families at risk, investigate and interpret information about the disorder, analyze inheritance patterns and risks of recurrence, and review available options with the family.

Elizabeth (Lib) Moore, who is director of the genetics program for the N.C. Division of Public Health, said the new program is an exciting development for health care in North Carolina. "The medical centers in the state all offer extensive genetic counseling services to patients and clients, but there is no training program in North Carolina," said Moore. "In the big picture of health care in North Carolina, UNCG's new program will be a real plus. It will be wonderful to have a program right here in the state that will train students and allow our medical centers to recruit them."

The counselors also provide supportive counseling to families, serve as patient advocates and refer individuals and families to community or state support services. They serve as sources of information for other health care professionals and for the general public. Some counselors also work in administrative capacities. Many engage in research activities related to the field of medical genetics and genetic counseling.

Certification in genetic counseling is available by the American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC). Requirements include documentation of the following: a graduate degree in genetic counseling from an ABGC accredited program; clinical experi-

FRATERNITY ADOPTS LOCAL BUSINESS FOR BLACK DOLLAR DAYS

University News Service

GREENSBORO - Members of the Rho Beta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity hope that by encouraging people to eat plenty of collard greens and macaroni and cheese on Thursday, Nov. 18, they will be doing their part to help build bigger and better black businesses in Greensboro.

Members of the fraternity, located on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, working with the campus NAACP chapter, are encouraging people to dine at Big Pearl's and Willies Soul Food and Country Kitchen on Summit Avenue on Thursday.

"Oftentimes fraternities have a party reputation," said Gregory Holman, chairman of the Rho Beta

Chapter Bigger and Better Business Committee. "We want people to know us as a group of distinguished young men working to build up and support the community."

This project is part of the national fraternity's "Black Dollar Day" program. The national fraternity has a three-pronged focus of education, social action and bigger and better business. The fraternity encourages all the chapters to do a project related to "Black Dollar Days" but leaves the particular project to the local chapter.

"We wanted to do something that would help the community and focus on black economic development," said fraternity member Frantz Dautruche,

a senior interior design major. "We are putting black dollars back into the black community."

Those participating are encouraged to go Big Pearls, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, anytime throughout the day. Fraternity members will be at the restaurant at 7 p.m. and will be providing transportation for UNCG students.

"People ask us why we are doing this," said Holman, a UNCG sophomore. "It doesn't look like we get anything out of this. But we are helping the community and helping to support black business."

He then added, "Yea, we're getting a good homecooked meal also."



Photo By Frantz Dautruche

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The Carolinian office is located in Room 212 of the Elliott University Center. Telephone: (336) 334-5752, Fax: (336) 334-3818

ence in an ABGC-approved training site; a log book of 50 supervised cases; and successful completion of both the general and specialty certification examination.

Callanan said that admis-

sion requirements call for applicants to have a bachelor's degrees from accredited institutions of higher education with a minimum grade point averages of 3.0 (on a 4.0 point scale); completion of at least one

upper level undergraduate course each in general genetics and biochemistry, and at least one undergraduate course in statistics; and satisfactory scores on required sections of the Graduate Record Examination.

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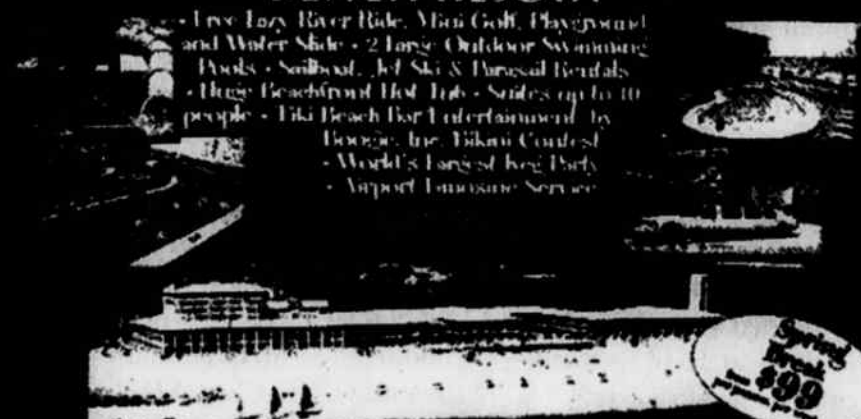
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