

# APPLES Initiates Service/Learning Programs InThe UNC Curriculum

By Myron B. Pitts  
Staff

Students at UNC will soon gain more opportunities to serve their community through a relatively new program designed to incorporate outside service activities in the current curriculum.

The APPLES (Allowing People to Plan Learning Experiences in Service) program, initiated by students, seeks to combine service and learning. By working closely with the faculty, students in the organization want to make available to everyone classes that incorporate service.

APPLES members said they have focused on three short-term objectives, which are: making students aware of existing service-inclusive courses through a resource handbook slated for spring release; creating new service programs to accompany selected classes in the College of Arts and Sciences; working with the University's Bicentennial Observance Committee in order to fund future projects. The ultimate goal is campuswide expansion of service-inclusive classes, members said.

The APPLES group formed a task force comprised of UNC faculty and notable members of the Chapel Hill and Carrboro communities in late May, said Tony Deifell, APPLES founder and coordinating chairperson. The faculty has been very receptive to the program, he added.

"Just to have the faculty support you so much is wonderful," he said. "The faculty is working with us every

step of the way."

Deifell went on to name three task force members, Sonja Stone, professor in the African/Afro-American Studies curriculum, Janet Turchi, director of the Chapel Hill Head Start program, and Peter Filene, history professor, who attends an APPLES meeting every Thursday. The meetings are held to discuss plans for adding service programs to two or three classes during the spring semester.

When the new programs are installed, members will monitor them, making sure they are mutually beneficial to the class instructor, students and community citizens, Deifell and others said. This evaluation represents one key aspect of APPLES, members stated.

Mike Steiner, a Campus Y coordinator and APPLES member, said similar endeavors in the past have resulted in students participating in isolated instances of service which they promptly forgot upon returning home. The new program would make students take an active role in their projects, he added.

"Reflection is a big part of what makes the service useful," Steiner said. "(Service) really becomes part of their lives and they really become part of the community."

Although many organizations like the Black Greek Council and Campus Y do their own service projects, APPLES will be unique in that it features a unified student effort, Steiner said.

Faculty and students associated with the program said they were optimistic about the progress of APPLES, which has been partially funded by a \$5000 grant awarded by the Campus Outreach

Opportunities League (COOL), a national service organization. Other schools that received the award, the University of California at Los Angeles, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Utah, and other institutions with quality service programs, largely inspired Deifell and Steiner to try forming a similar program at UNC, they said.

"It's not like a brand new idea," Deifell said. "It's happening at other campuses. There were so many important social issues taking place and people (at UNC) just weren't thinking about these things."

Task Force members Stone and Joel Schwartz, political science professor, also said they recognized a need for increased service/curriculum integration.

"I like the idea of legitimizing service," Stone said. "I would like to see the university as a whole more committed to community service."

"I think the students have done an extremely conscientious, thoughtful job in this," Schwartz said.

Future occurrences, such as Senator Jesse Helms' re-election, may be avoided if people increasingly become involved and concerned citizens, Schwartz continued. In addition to a certain amount of positive social change there is also "social meanness and social animosity" that needs to be remedied, Schwartz said.

To take part in APPLES, students can contact Emily Lawson, Pilot Program Chairperson (933-2981), Kas DeCarvalho, Resource Handbook Chairperson (933-6251), or Serena Wille, Bicentennial Observance Chairperson (933-0943).

## CALENDAR

**November 11-16**— Human Rights Week

**November 12**— Racism and the Student, 1pm- Union 224

—The Endangered Black Male 6pm- Union 208

—Ebony Readers Performance, 8pm- Columbia St. Bakery

**November 13**—Native Americans: Victims at Home, 5pm Cabaret

—Civil Rights In the 90's, 6pm- Union 208

**November 14**—UNC Athletes: Discrimination in Drug Testing, 12pm- Union 211

—Black Panthers Remembered, 1pm- Union 226

—Civil Rights and the US Supreme Court, 3pm- Union 226

—The King and You, 5pm- Union 226

—Sexual Assault, 6:30pm- Carmichael Auditorium

—KEYNOTE ADDRESS (Human Rights Week): Randall Robinson

—Performance by the BSM Gospel Choir, the Opeyo! Dancers and the Lorielis, 8pm- Memorial Hall

—Reception for Randall Robinson, 9pm- Di Phi Lounge

**November 15**—Breaking the Cycle of Bigotry, 6pm Union 205

—KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Winnie Mandela, 8pm- Dean Dome

**November 16**—Multicultural Curriculum for Educators, 4pm- Hanes Auditorium

—The Total Education of Black Youth, 7pm- Hill Hall


—Dick Tracy, 7pm, 9:30pm and 12am, Union Film Auditorium

**November 17**—BSM Gospel Choir Performance at National Achievement Day

—Special Project Committee Meeting, 5pm

**November 18**—BSM Gospel Choir Fall Concert with a Performance by the Opeyo! Dancers, 3pm- Great Hall

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