

Cover Story

After nearly five years at UNC, Dean Rosalind Fuse-Hall has moved on to bigger and better challenges. She leaves behind many who loved her and an incredibly huge void. p.8 & 9



Fuse-Hall Was More Than Just a Dean

Taped to the walls of my South Campus dorm room are little yellow sticky notes that read, "I will graduate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a 3.0 or better." There are about five or so of these do-hickeys around, one from as far back as my freshman year.

This was the challenge presented to members of this year's senior class, almost four years ago in the Union Auditorium during its first official meeting with Rosalind Fuse-Hall, former associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. I use the word former, because as of Feb. 1, Fuse-Hall is the newly appointed secretary for the UNC-System.

Fuse-Hall's departure from her job as head of the Office for Student Counseling took students by storm. I guess we always expected her to be here for us. Selfish, isn't it?

While Fuse-Hall's leaving has left many of us, especially this year's seniors, with mixed emotions, there is one thing that is clear—she'll be missed. There are very few black or minority students on campus who can claim not to have been affected by her in some way. And for those few, what a pity.

The first time, I met Fuse-Hall, who was then *Dean Fuse-Hall*, I was an 18-year-old college freshman, fresh off a plane from Miami. Home sick, nervous and scared to death, I spent my first week and to some degree, my entire freshman year, wondering if I had made the right decision by coming to UNC.

Four years later, I occasionally get homesick and a little nervous. But no longer do I wonder about my decision to come to UNC, nor am I scared to death. The reason: Fuse-Hall and the Office for Student Counseling.

With the help of then Asst. Dean Harold Woodard and her administrative assistant, Beverly Hester-Stephens, Fuse-Hall provided black students with not only the tools necessary to succeed at UNC but the motivation to do so as well.

Her speeches coupled with programs such as the Minority Advisor program, 3.0 Ceremony, Strategies for Sophomore Success sessions and Life After Carolina series, are only a few of the things, which she and OSC have provided for students over the years.

In her five years at UNC, Fuse-Hall has served as an advocate for students, not only via her role on the appeals board, but with her presence and caring nature. She was one that you could always count on to go to bat for you.

Fuse-Hall has moved on. I still remember the day I heard the news. It was as unbelievable as it was sad. Nevertheless, I take comfort in knowing that I had the chance to be affected by her and live up to her challenge. I also take comfort in knowing that she's left us in good hands with Hester-Stephens and Asst. Dean Darryl Lester, who recently took Woodard's place in the office.

So to *Dean Fuse-Hall*, from myself and the entire *Black Ink* Staff, and the silent majority, who didn't get a chance to say good-bye, we wish you all the best in your new found role.

Peace.

Jacqueline Charles
Editor-in-Chief

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