

# Opinion



## Board Editorials

### A Seat at the Table

Students have a representative to the UNC-CH Board of Trustees — faculty deserve the same

For years, students have had a seat on the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees. But another important group in the University community has found itself left out of this august body. That group is the faculty, and they too deserve their own seat on the BOT.

The student seat on the BOT has been a valuable tool for communicating student needs. That tool becomes even more important when the issue of tuition comes up. Students are the people most affected when the BOT considers tuition increases, yet they often have the smallest voice in the matter.

The BOT seat allows students to at least bring their concerns directly to the decision-makers. Now it is time to allow the faculty to do the same.

It is difficult to understand why the faculty have been denied a seat on the BOT for so long, especially when the students have their own.

Whenever a possible tuition hike is pro-

posed at UNC, an increase in faculty salaries has usually been listed among the reasons for it.

Back in 1999, the BOT cited UNC's lower faculty salaries as the main reason for the University's decline in U.S. News & World Report's annual college rankings. That decline did in fact affect the decision to raise tuition, regardless of what administrators today would like students to believe.

It is true that in 1999, UNC lagged behind its peer institutions in faculty pay. But it should have been the faculty members themselves telling the BOT that they were losing potential faculty to other colleges because of comparatively lower salaries.

If the problem of low salaries had been tackled in its early stages, perhaps such a drastic increase in tuition would have been unnecessary.

A faculty seat on the BOT would allow the group most able to assess faculty needs to directly communicate the group's needs to the board.

In the past, the BOT was able to play students and faculty off one another in a divide-and-conquer strategy to achieve its goals.

A faculty seat on the BOT could exacerbate the problem, but it could also let students and faculty members present a united front against any proposals that would be detrimental to both groups.

Such cooperation would depend on the willingness of each group to compromise. But a student-faculty partnership could be a powerful weapon that the BOT would be unable to ignore.

The idea of faculty representation on the BOT is not a new one. Faculty members have been pushing for a seat for some time now, only to have their overtures rejected by the BOT on at least two occasions.

There is no legitimate reason to deny the faculty a seat on the BOT.

Their voice deserves to be heard — and the BOT should make room for them at the table.

### Why They Hate Us

A new study raises disturbing questions about how the Islamic world views America

Why does the Islamic world view America so unfavorably? What U.S. policies could have triggered the kind of animosity that culminated in the most heinous act of terror on American soil? These are difficult questions whose answers are often controversial. In fact, many people in America disdain such questions. These people are blinded by idealism, convinced that there are peaceful solutions to some of the most violent governmental atrocities in the world.

This is no longer the Cold War. Our era encompasses myriad uncertainties in an increasingly hostile, multipolar world.

This week a Gallup Poll of nine Islamic countries revealed some alarming statistics. The Gallup Organization found that 53 percent of people in the nations polled view the United States in an unfavorable manner. Even though two-thirds believe the terrorist attacks were morally unjustifi-

able, 77 percent think the U.S. military campaign in Afghanistan is not morally justified. Perhaps the most shocking statistic, however, is that 36 percent of Kuwaiti citizens considered the terrorist attacks morally justifiable.

MARK SEELEY

#### EDITORIAL NOTEBOOK

These results are astonishing to a country that promotes human rights and democratically elected governments.

That commitment comes with the obligation to oppose repressive regimes. One cannot deny that the majority of Islamic lands are oppressive according to American standards of government. This makes the findings of the Gallup Poll seem more unsettling.

America is viewed unfavorably because of its prosperity, its individual liberties and its status as the supreme world power. The Islamic world appears to envy what America has. Because it is the lone world superpower, its role as a champion for

democratic ideals is vital.

During the Cold War years many Islamic regimes had Soviet support; their lands were provided with an ally that was an equal to America in its power. The mutually beneficial relationship was abandoned 11 years ago with the collapse of the Soviet Union. These countries have no security and what's more, America is condemning them. America is attempting to uphold its democratic goals overseas and an endeavor that necessitates a whole slew of interventions that are loathed by Islamic governments.

The dramatic increase in terrorist plots is a direct result of America's superiority in the world and its foreign interventions to preserve democracy. How long will this go on? A give-and-take relationship must occur in order to make peace a reality. These nations, as they stand today, are not willing to commit to such a proposition, making peace virtually impossible.

## The Daily Tar Heel

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## READERS' FORUM

### Applications for Student Government Now Available Online

TO THE EDITOR:

Applications are now available online at <http://ils.unc.edu/studentgovt/applications/> to be an officer in next year's Cabinet.

This includes the offices of student body vice president, student body secretary and student body treasurer.

All students are encouraged to apply, and applications, along with a résumé, are due this Saturday at midnight.

General Cabinet applications will be made available before Spring Break and will be due by March 23 at midnight. More information will follow next week regarding these applications.

Please contact me with any questions about the offices via e-mail ([daum@email.unc.edu](mailto:daum@email.unc.edu)) or phone (260-3051).

Thank you, and good luck!

Jen Daum  
Student Body President-Elect

### Newspaper's Portrayal Of Jen Daum, Election Incompetent, Biased

TO THE EDITOR:

In my time here at Carolina, I have learned to live with The Daily Tar Heel's notoriously biased approach to the news and stories that it reports. Like most students here, I have always accepted it as a facet of the University. However, I was especially disappointed by the DTH's gross misrepresentation of the campaign for student body president and Jen Daum's subsequent victory.

In my tendency to excuse the DTH's slanted reporting of the facts, I can almost excuse the blatantly wrong and gendered reporting found in its opinion articles, which declare on numerous occasions that Jen Daum, regardless of having the support of Fred Hashagen, Brad Overcash, Bennett Mason, and the majority of those students who voted, was only elected because "freshman guys ... think she's hot." However, not only have the opinions of the DTH been one-sided, but so have its alleged news stories which are also continuously

peppered with gendered language at the detriment to other candidates. For example, when Jen and Will won the initial election, Will was portrayed as composed and gracious, whereas Jen was said to be emotional and crying. I think it is sad that the DTH chooses to condemn a "real" person with feelings and emotions. I am not sure who should be more offended by your incompetence, Jen herself, or the student body; who, according to the DTH are unable to recognize and elect the most qualified candidate, regardless of gender and personal appearance.

The DTH is given the privilege and responsibility to report the news and other stories to the students of this University. Instead of reporting the success of the democratic process and the election of only the third woman student body president in the history of our University, the DTH attempts to substitute their preference for the will of the student body and exasperate this by lampooning the duly elected student body president and chastising the electorate.

Lauren Cook  
Sophomore  
Journalism

## BAROMETER



### Apocalypse Now

Amy Fisher and Tonya Harding will square off in a boxing ring for a Fox TV special this month. That sound you hear is the total collapse of Western civilization.



### Of Human Bondage

Student leaders auctioned themselves off for charity at Masala's annual date auction. DTH staffers plan to do the same. Opening bid: 25 cents and a Tic-Tac.



### Under the Gun

The U.S. military will provide assistance to the lawless, backward land of Georgia. They also plan to assist other countries.

### Stayin' Alive

The beleaguered men's basketball team sent Clemson to its 48th straight loss at Chapel Hill Wednesday night. Some things just never change.

## TAR HEEL QUOTABLES

"The nuclear bomb. Does that bother you? I just want you to think big."

FORMER PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON  
Discussing the possibility of a nuclear strike against North Vietnam on a 1972 tape released this week. And to think we got uptight about oral sex in the Oval Office.

"My job is pretty cool, drinking and hanging out."

COMEDIAN DAVE ATTELL  
Wow, what a coincidence! That's our job, too!

"A bunch of rich white men in suits are determining what's happening in Iraq."

N.C. STATE GRADUATE RANIA MASRI  
Speaking at a teach-in Wednesday night. Wait, isn't that what we fought the war for?

"Everything has to be looked at carefully, so there were delays in approval."

STUDENT UNION DIRECTOR DON LUSE  
Commenting on the off-delayed Union renovation project. A campus construction project delayed? We are shocked, shocked at such a notion.



BEN DICKENS  
SHAMPOOING  
PEOPLE,  
REPEATEDLY  
REPORTED