

# Group offers support to graduate students

By KARA V. DONALDSON  
Staff Writer

"The magnitude of working on a dissertation is completely misunderstood," says Dr. Richard S. Cooper, a clinical psychologist. Cooper counsels a problem-solving support group for people writing dissertations.

Cooper uses a behavioral contract method to help students begin working at their own pace.

"Somebody picks a piece of work to do for the next meeting and writes it down in a contract," he said. "They learn that if they picked too much or too little work, to make more reasonable demands on themselves."

The group discusses writer's block, time organization, study skills, data collection and topic selection topics. Participating students range from those preparing their proposal to those nearly finished writing.

Cooper deals with how-to problems, but also focuses on outside pressures. "It's a support group that tries to aid them with problems: pressures from their family to finish, feeling they aren't working fast enough, supporting themselves, trouble with their adviser and politics in their department."

"It's a rare department that offers overt support," he said. "More people would benefit from support groups."

Cooper said that more people should be made aware of the difficulties involved in writing a dissertation. "It should be recognized that there is a lot to overcome," he said. "The number of people that don't finish is not dealt with."

John Stewart, director of graduate studies in the economics department, works as a liaison between faculty and graduate students.

"The economics department has about a 50 percent attrition rate," he said. "We'd like to see more finish. The program is not set up with an attrition rate. We

only admit people we think can finish. Some small percentage will decide it's not what they want to do. Another small percent can't do it."

"I have found that you can't teach someone a method that leads to them doing research," Stewart said. "The real problem is 2 1/2 years into studies, any graduate education ceases to be schooling, it becomes a profession itself, you're still expected to learn, but no longer taught. Now, become an economist."

"A problem is that a dissertation or research is a close critical look at the state of knowledge," Stewart said. The dissertation's purpose is to somehow expand that state of knowledge, he said.

"You have to work in the unknown," Stewart said. "You have to know enough about what you're looking at to know what the holes are and how to fill them in. That's the process of research."

Tom Bland, a UNC English graduate student from Wake Forest, is beginning to write his dissertation. Although not in a support group, he thinks it's a good idea.

Bland's topic is "Staging and Theology in the A and B Texts of Dr. Faustus." Bland proposes to use theatrical evidence and theological evolution to show that these are two separate versions.

"I guess I'm running against the grain by saying they shouldn't be, most critics say they should be," Bland said. "They are still surprised when someone goes against tradition, despite liberal education."

Bland began working on this topic in a seminar. The paper he wrote then will be a chapter in his finished dissertation.

After deciding on his idea, Bland had to choose a committee of professors to help him with his work and then to judge his paper. Since presenting his topic to them at his perspective, Bland has found them supportive.

Dr. Alan Dessen, a specialist on theatrical history, is his director. Bland meets with his director to discuss

his work at each stage. Once he has prepared a finished draft, he will defend it before the committee. Bland and the committee members will talk about the paper, and the professors may make recommendations.

"After receiving your Ph.D.," Bland said, "the dissertation often is used as a rough draft for your first book."

Bland said he was not pursuing an academic career and might attend a seminary. He and Cooper agree that applying for jobs while writing a dissertation is a difficult problem.

"Your chances of getting a job go up the closer your dissertation is to being finished," Bland said. "It's difficult to send out job letters and write a dissertation at the same time."

The outside pressures often are unexpected and can slow work. Many students are self-supporting. Cooper suggests students work outside their field if possible. "If you're a research assistant in your department, you might burn out."

Some departments require students to work as teaching assistants or research assistants. Other departments, such as economics, offer assistantships as financial aid.

In the romance language and physics departments, students working for a Ph.D. must teach two semesters.

"A lot of people may not be aware of the time it takes, and the financial problems that can occur," Bland said. "You're given a certain number of years to write it. In the English department we get eight. There is some flexibility, but it may be that if you don't make your time limit, you won't ever get your paper written."

Even with the difficulties he's had, Bland is glad he chose to write his dissertation.

"I don't feel I've wasted my time," he said. "I've had some good experiences and I've grown."

# U.S. fighter jets divert airliner with hijackers to NATO base

From wire reports

WASHINGTON — U.S. fighter planes intercepted an Egyptian airliner carrying four hijackers of an Italian cruise ship Thursday and escorted it to a NATO military base on Sicily.

Three or four F-14 jets were dispatched from the U.S.S. Saratoga in the Mediterranean Sea to intercept the airliner, apparently heading for Tunisia, deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes said in a nationally televised briefing Thursday night.

The United States was working late Thursday on plans to extradite the Palestinian hijackers and charge them with the murder of American Leon Klinghoffer, a passenger on the ship, Speakes said.

Speakes criticized Egyptian Prime Minister Hosni Mubarak for announcing the departure of the hijackers from Egypt before they had actually left. But he stressed that fundamental similarities remained between the United States and Egypt.

## news in brief

NEW YORK — Actor Yul Brynner, who played the leading man in "The King and I" for over 34 years, died Thursday after a long struggle with cancer. He was 65.

Brynner died at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center at 1 a.m. of complications resulting from cancer.

Brynner was with his wife, Kathy, and their four children, Rock, Victoria, Mia, and Melody, at the time of his death. Robert Lantz, Brynner's agent, and his wife Shirlee were also present.

### Orson Welles dies

LOS ANGELES — Actor-director Orson Welles died Thursday of an apparent heart attack in his Hollywood home, the Los Angeles coroner's office said. He was 70.

# N.C. is only state with a significant decline in monthly unemployment figures

By MARK POWELL  
Business Editor

North Carolina was the only state among the nation's 11 largest states to

show a significant drop in the rate of unemployment for September, according to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

Figures released from the U.S. Department of Labor last week showed North Carolina to have an unemployment rate of 4.7 percent, down from

an August rate of 5.9 percent.

"We have been seeing a rise in unemployment because of increasing temporary and permanent layoffs in the textile industry, apparel industry, furniture industry and other traditional industries," said Lynda Burgess, spokeswoman for the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina. "Those industries have stabilized recently and are rehiring some of those people who were laid off."

North Carolina figures remain well below the national unemployment rate, reported at 7.1 percent for September.

Among the 11 largest states, only Massachusetts with 3.8 percent unemployed had a lower unemployment rate than North Carolina. Michigan was the

highest, with an unemployment rate of 10.9 percent.

The average annual pay for workers in the Southeast increased from \$15,369 in 1983 to \$16,052 in 1984, according to Donald M. Cruse, Regional Commissioner for the Bureau of Labor Statistics of U.S. Department of Labor in Atlanta. The 1984 statistics were released last week.

In North Carolina the average salary level rose from \$14,628 in 1983 to \$15,343 in 1984. Raleigh-Durham rose 5.9 percent from \$16,396 to \$17,366.

Cruse explained the increases as a result of more people moving up the pay ladder into higher skilled positions.

"People are changing occupations to higher paid positions," Cruse said.

Village Printing. It is a division of The Village Companies. The story also stated that students sold between \$2,500 and \$5,000 worth of ads over the summer. Students earned between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in commissions during the summer. The name of Jan Bolick, general manager of University Directories, also was misspelled. The Daily Tar Heel regrets these reporting errors.

## for the record

The Sept. 27 story "Phone book distribution set" incorrectly stated that University Directories was a division of

## Campus Calendar

### Friday

- 1:00 p.m. Career Planning and Placement Services sponsors an interviewing tips workshop in 209 Hanes.
- 2:00 p.m. Department of Journalism hosting Larry Keith, Assistant Managing Editor of Sports Illustrated, to speak on "Sports Journalism and Magazine Journalism" until 3:00 p.m. in 203 Howell.

# ATTENTION UNC STUDENTS! Carolina Basketball Tickets

As of Monday, October 14th at 8:30 AM, student tickets will be available for both Blue-White basketball games as well as the exhibition against the Greek National Team.

Blue-White #1 will be held on Saturday, October 26th after the Florida State football game. Blue-White #2 taps off after the Clemson football game on November 9th. The exhibition against the Greek National Team will be played on Saturday evening, November 16th. All games will be played in Carmichael.

Students can pick up their tickets at Carmichael from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM as of October 14th. Additional guest passes will also be available for all of the above mentioned games. Please have your UNC I.D. card and athletic pass with you. We expect these games to be total sellouts and therefore urge you to get your tickets early.

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Homemade Brunswick Stew	1.35
B.B.Q., Brunswick Stew & Slaw Platter	2.85
6 oz. Hamburger Steak with Sautéed Onions	1.75
Spaghetti & Homemade Meat Sauce	1.60
Veal Parmegian	1.85
Veal Parmegian & Spaghetti	2.85
1/4 Fried Chicken	1.65
1/4 BBQ Chicken	1.65

### On Rotating Schedule

Chicken & Dumplings	1.35
Country Fried Steak & Gravy	1.40
Meat Loaf (Homemade)	1.50
Turkey & Dressing	1.60
Fried Chicken Liver	1.40
2 Franks & Bean & Bacon Casserole	1.50
Pot Roast with Vegetables	2.40
Beef Stew	1.95
Broiled Fish Parmegian	1.75
Kielbasa & Sausage	1.95
Baked Ham	1.65
Stuffed Pepper	1.60
Chicken Pot Pie	1.65
Beef Tips over Rice	2.25

### Every Friday and Saturday

Fried Trout	1.45
Fried Clam Strips	1.75
Fried Shrimp	3.25
Sampler Platter	All 3 with slaw 4.95

### Breakfast

Egg cooked to order	.40
Bacon Slice	.30
Sausage	.50
Country Steak	.85
Kielbasa (Polish Sausage)	.85
Comed Beef Hash	.95
Cured Ham	1.10
Country Ham	.85
Chipped Beef	1.10
Gravy	.45
Biscuit & Gravy	.65
Pancakes	2 for 1.25

### VEGETABLES 6 or 7 Daily

Creamed Potatoes	.60
French Fried Potatoes	.60
Home Fried Potatoes	.60
Pinto Beans	.60
Blackeyed Peas	.60
Butter Beans	.60
Snap Beans	.60
Creamed Corn	.60
Carrots	.60
Squash	.60
Fried Okra	.60
Fried Squash	.60
Rice	.60
Peas & Carrots	.60
Caulliflower	.60
Collard Greens	.60
Macaroni & Cheese	.65
Broccoli with Cheese Sauce	.75

### All Breads, Biscuits, Corn Bread, Rolls, Pies & Pastys Baked on our Premises

Blueberry Muffin	.50
Cinnamon Roll	.50
Apple or Blueberry Turnover	.65
Cheese Danish	.75

### Lunch or Dinner

Bread Pudding	.60
Banana Pudding	.75
Cobblers	.85
Pies	.70
Carrot Cake	.85
German Chocolate Cake	.85

Grits	.45
Hash Browns	.60
Biscuit (Homemade Fresh Daily)	.25
Toast Slice	.20
Butter or Margarine	.05
Jelly	.05

### Beverages

Coffee	8 oz. .35
	12 oz. .50
Juice	Orange - Grapefruit - Tomato .50
Fountain Sodas	12 oz. .50
	20 oz. .70
Iced Tea	20 oz. .50

Breakfast Monday through Saturday 6:30 am-10:45 am  
Lunch Monday through Saturday 11:00 am-2:00 pm  
Dinner Monday through Saturday 4:30 pm-9:00 pm  
Sunday Breakfast Only 7:00 am-2:00 pm

# GRAND OPENING

**GET A PIECE**  
at the  
**ALL CAMPUS BASH**  
A Birthday Party and  
New Year's Eve Party All In One

**Friday, October 11**  
**7:30 pm-1:00 am**  
**Student Union and the Pit**

featuring  
**The Connells The Graphic Plair Eve Cornelious**

Beer, wine permitted with proof of age  
Check in the Pit for the BASH Schedule

# Executive Material.

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The Fuquay is a comfortable and versatile beltless, reverse-pleat pant designed exclusively for The Hub Ltd.'s Bespoke Collection. It's 55/45 poly wool blend makes it comfortable for year-round wear. \$67.50

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