

Duke names new director

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president for campus life in Duke's Division of Student Affairs.

"Dr. Long is a seasoned scholar, dedicated advocate and effective practitioner in education. She is a prolific writer with published articles on a range of counseling issues that include theoretical foundations of family therapy, clinical supervision and Alzheimer's disease. Most important, Dr. Long is excited about the opportunity to work with undergraduate and graduate students at Duke."

The mission of Duke's Center for LGBT Life is to provide education, advocacy, support, mentoring and space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and straight-allied students, staff and faculty at Duke.

"I am very excited to be joining the stu-

dent affairs team and to provide leadership for the LGBT Center in its work to foster positive identity development for LGBT members of the Duke community and to spearhead social justice initiatives," Long said.

"As a Duke alum, I am extremely happy to return to a campus that has always held a special place in my heart."

Long has taught in MFT programs at Antioch, Purdue University, the University of Louisiana at Monroe and the University of Georgia. She also has served on the faculties at East Carolina University and Virginia Tech.

Long earned a doctorate from Virginia Tech, a master's of religious education from Duke Divinity School and a bachelor's degree from Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C. ▀

A soldier's story

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Lebanon have modern equipment and are fierce dedicated soldiers. The fighters and insurgents here in Iraq are all too often hide behind women and children, news conferences or they send taped messages.

Most of the soldiers — myself included — learn of the happenings from watching CNN in the dining facility. I have spoken to a few and the conclusions are nearly all the same: thank God we are not fighting a regular army. A few higher ranking personnel have stated that what's happening between Israel and Lebanon is taking the focus off Iraq for a short period of time and allowing the U.S. and Coalition to do things without the media all over their backs. That comment seems funny, but I guess they feel it's allowing them a moment to catch their breath.

Although some people have talked about this developing into a larger global conflict — not many of us here seem to think that.

It's a different war and a different agenda. The Israeli Army is well equipped and won't back down from anyone. I'm impressed with them — but I hope that peace comes to the Middle East soon. I still have my doubts about the long-term outlook for this part of the world.

The violence occurring in Iraq comes

directly off the streets — insurgents attack US and Coalition soldiers and then they go neighborhoods and attack their own people. The relations between the Sunnis and Shias are terrible — people are dying at an alarming rate just because of their religious affiliations. I have known people that have been kidnapped, murdered and threatened — all because of their religious background. Our interpreters won't leave our base to go home because they are so scared of being outside the wire. I know I would be scared traveling — there was an IED that went off not more than 250 yards from where I was standing at a fuel point just this week. Fortunately there were no injuries and only minor damage to the U.S. vehicle. My time here in Iraq is getting shorter — and I want to be sure I make it home — so I try to arrange all my daily activities to reduce the opportunity for accidents or a potential attack on myself or personnel.

We all pray for peace, we pray that we all make it home in one piece, and we pray for those who have fallen during this process. Out for now, your friend and soldier in Iraq. ▀

— Reporting from Iraq,
your friend and soldier from Charlotte

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