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# The Blue Banner

"Where there is an open mind, there will always be a frontier." — Kettering

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## Campus speaks out against prejudice

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Photo by Diane Manoy

Panelists (from left) Cat Nilan, Ileana Grams and Dollie Mullen speak out against prejudice.

**LeeAnn Donnelly**  
Staff Writer

Speak Out Against Prejudice Day activities ended Tuesday night with a panel discussion and open forum in the Humanities Lecture Hall. Several UNCA instructors, students, and community members spoke on issues concerning prejudices and discrimination.

Ileana Grams, assistant professor of philosophy, spoke about the definition of prejudice.

"Prejudice is literally prejudging," she said. "If before we know someone, we think we know what they will be like because of certain characteristics about them," she said.

"Prejudice is irrational because members of groups aren't alike, usually, except in virtue of the feature they share," she said.

Grams cited women as an example of this type of categorizing.

"Women are alike in being women, but aren't alike in size, skin color, intelligence, interests, temperaments, or anything else," she said. "What makes prejudice irrational is that we're generalizing from one characteristic being the same in all members of a group to

concluding we know all about those people."

Cat Nilan of the history department added to Grams' discussion on the general definition of prejudice.

"One of the things that differentiates bigots from non-bigots is a willingness to be apathetic, to understand what it's like to be in somebody else's shoes," she said. "All of us want rights, and all of us increase our own rights by increasing other's rights."

Nilan focused her discussion on the women's movement and sexism. She said she thinks crime rates against women are growing in the nation, while other types of crimes seem to be declining.

"The kind of crime that would affect women most directly, in most cases, is going up," she said.

According to Nilan, women aren't the only people who suffer from rape and family violence.

"These crimes damage everyone. They certainly damage children in families where this is going on. They damage men who are abusers themselves, and men who are going to be raised by abusive mothers," she said. "Society suffers

in that it pays the price for this level of sexual violence."

Joan Marshall, permanent deacon in the Episcopal Church, is currently serving at All Soul's Parish. She spoke about her ministry in the gay community. She shared personal experiences in dealing with people infected with AIDS who've been discriminated against.

Marshall talked about a gay man who had committed his life to taking care of his AIDS-infected lover.

"When the man died," she said, "the mother and father said 'you're welcome at the funeral, provided that you sit on the back row. We don't want you around us. You aren't part of the family.' And then, as a closing remark, they said to him, 'By the way, we're sending you the bill for the funeral.'"

Marshall said she can only imagine what it must be like for someone to experience discrimination.

"As a straight person who is not HIV-positive, I can only feel into their [infected persons] situation a little bit. I'm a real outsider to the prejudice that these dear friends of

mine experience," she said. "I will certainly affirm that I cannot know what this [prejudice] feels like."

Marshall said it's important for society to understand its prejudices and homophobia in order to deal with emotional-filled topics such as AIDS.

"[The prejudices] can become past history for us if we can all make an honest effort to address the prejudices within ourselves, and to expose prejudice when we find it."

Lane Hollifield, a student majoring in mass communication, added to Marshall's comments regarding the gay and lesbian populations in the country.

"The constant negative messages have a serious psychological impact on the members of these groups, affecting not only their concept of self-worth, but their overall concept of their own personal identity," he said. "It is very important that positive messages are sent out to tell these groups that it's OK for them to be who they are."

Hollifield said he thought education should provide accurate and truthful information about the gay and lesbian lifestyle in order

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## Location and cost for child care discussed

**Bonnie Phillips**  
Staff Writer

Money and space are the main obstacles when on-campus child care is discussed. But according to Amy Potter, vice president of Corporate Child Care, Inc., students feel like a portion of their fees should be used to back a child-care program. Potter conducted focus groups over the summer to get student feedback.

"All of the students felt that student activity fees should be used. A lot of times student-government people feel strongly that this is only serving a narrow population of people, and there should be an extra fee for this. I didn't find that here at all."

"In fact, I found that traditional students (of course, they were in leadership positions, so you have to remember that) being very supportive of this concept and willing at least to consider and help with the financial obligation," said Potter.

Space, in addition to funds, is another obstacle to overcome. "If you could address the space

challenge in a cost-effective way, it would go a long way to addressing the cost challenge," said Potter.

Several areas on and off campus were looked at as possible sites. "We looked at classrooms in two places. I looked at land that might be available for either construction or a modular," said Potter.

Potter suggested that the parking lot below the athletic center be used to construct the child care center. Suggestions included the Baptist Student Union and Edgewood Bible Church.

There are several choices that the university could select from in terms of child care programs. "I really looked at two things in terms of program options. Sort of the pie-in-the-sky, if you can do whatever, what should it be, and what would that cost. And that's why I'm calling it the full-service option."

"More of your traditional child care, with the components added that would meet the university needs; drop-ins, age range, 10 to 12 hour days, heavily weighted

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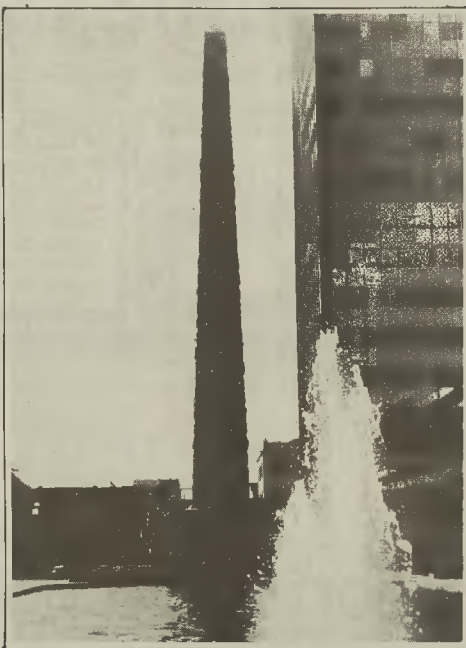


Photo by Miranda Wyatt

**Historic Site**

The Vance monument is one of the many historic sites that can be found in Asheville.

## Compliance with affirmative action rules questioned

**Leslie Gilliam**  
Staff Writer

A Federal Appeals Court ruled against the University of North Carolina (UNC) in a lawsuit UNC hoped would narrow the interpretation of affirmative action rules, an Associated Press release said.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 2-1 in favor of the U.S. Labor Department's broad interpretation of affirmative action requirements. The Labor Department was joined by several organizations representing women and minorities to argue against UNC's lawsuit, according to the press release.

Richard Robinson, assistant to the president for legal affairs at the UNC General Office, said the lawsuit grew out of UNCA's and N.C. School of the Arts' refusal to submit to federal reviews documents showing compliance with non-discrimination and affirmative action requirements.

Andy Brantly, director of personnel for UNCA, said the issue was not whether the schools were following the requirements. "The point [of the lawsuit] was over whether or not we should be subject to federal reviews," he said.

Brantly wanted to point out no one has contacted UNCA since the ruling to review whether or not they are complying with affirmative action rules.

According to Robinson, the two schools should not need to provide compliance documentation because they [UNCA and N.C. School of the Arts] didn't enter into any federal contracts with the government. The court ruled federal laws that bar employment discrimination apply to the entire UNC system and not just campuses that get federal contracts, the press release said.

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## New Director of Student Development named

**Timberly Cooley**  
News Editor

Nina East has been named the new director of student development for UNCA. She replaced Cissy Petty who left UNCA this summer.

East was formerly the area coordinator for the housing office at Appalachian State University in Boone.

As director of student development, some of East's responsibilities will include supervising student organizations

and activities, advising the student government association, supervising leadership programs, and being a liaison between faculty and staff.

Along with these responsibilities, East will serve as assistant to Eric Iovacchini, vice chancellor of student affairs. She will also work closely with Carolyn Briggs, coordinator of multicultural affairs and Anita Rose, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs.

"I loved UNCA when I saw it," East said. "I was impressed with the student leaders I met. I was impressed with other students I

met who aren't classified as leaders and the staff was definitely encouraging to me."

East is not a stranger to North Carolina. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and of Ohio State University.

East said she wanted to make sure that UNCA had a real comprehensive leadership program. "When people talk about leadership programs they talk about preparing for the future. To me that makes sense but I want to prepare students to create their future."

East found out about the director of student development job through her former supervisor who thought East might be interested in the job.

East said she sees UNCA as a place she would like to stay for a

while. "I see this as a personal stepping stone for my own personal growth and what I will experience while I am here. I'm going to learn so much more about me and about the students here and the impact I will have on them and what impact they will have on me."

Student Government president John Schoultz said he was very happy to see East take the job of director of student development.

"Nina seems very open to student ideas and I think she will fit in well with the students, if fact, she already has," he said.

East said she wants to hear from students anytime. She said she encourages them to drop by her office anytime and let her know what they like and don't like and see what can possibly be done to enhance certain aspects of student development.



East