

The students who traveled to Kenya several weeks this summer held some of the babies from the New Life Homes orphanage. UNC Asheville's chapter of the Student Global AIDS Campaign raises money for the Amani Foundation, which is one of the primary supporters of the New Life Homes orphanages.

Kenya

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We worked at New Life Homes taking care of the babies, doing laundry, changing diapers, making food and all that stuff," said Elizabeth Morgan, senior art major. "I fell in love with a baby named Annette.

Barnes said his favorite experience of the trip was an adoption

"We came in, and there was a family all dressed up, and there's a little girl in this beautiful dress who we had been playing with before," Barnes said. "She was adopted. They were having a party with cake and celebrating this adoption. It was just beautiful."

Barnes said he would like to see the Amani Foundation, a group that funds the New Life Homes and sponsored the trip, build more orphanages

There are 2.1 million orphans in Kenya," Barnes said. "There are 12 million in Africa, but you've got to start somewhere. So I think if we can get New Life Homes into don't have any sort of plumbing. each of the eight provinces of They don't have government sub-

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province, from there we can spread out through East Africa and tackle some bigger issues.

UNC Asheville's chapter of the Student Global AIDS Campaign raises money for the Amani Foundation.

Without the donations of people from North Carolina, that home (an orphanage in Nakuru) would not have opened," Barnes said. "Because of the Amani Foundation, that home opened. They gave those 13 children another chance at life, because those children were abandoned in the streets.

Students also saw the secondlargest slum in Africa.

Literature and language student Ben Cox lived in a neighborhood next to the Kibera Slums for most of the summer, not as an Amani Scholar, but with a grant to do undergraduate research.

"Kibera Slums has close to a million people in about 25 square miles of land," Cox said. "They Kenya, so there's a home in each sidies because this is government

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property that they're living on-

illegally living on. Sitting in the gazebo on UNC Asheville's campus, Cox compared the structure to houses in the

"Imagine this gazebo," Cox said. "This is two houses. Split it down the middle. That's a house here for a mother, a husband and maybe three kids. Most of our bedrooms are bigger than this. It makes you realize the insignificance of material, of what you really have."

Barnes described the slums fur-

"In between rows of tin-roof shacks there are ditches with waste in them, and then there are really thin livestock that are grazing on whatever they can find," Barnes

He said the circumstances are hard for some people to compre-

"Seventy percent of the people that live there are HIV-positive, and to me, I can't imagine living in such poverty and having to deal with a mother dying," Barnes said.

(3)

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New faculty member encourages an improved student experience

By Christa Chappelle

By incorporating academic life into the student affairs division Bill Haggard, the new vice chancellor of student affairs, plans on improving the entire student experience at UNC Asheville.

"The university already has an outstanding academic reputation, an outstanding reputation for good faculty and good facultystudent relationships," Haggard said. "It's my goal that the university is also known for, and clearly provides, one of the best student experiences anywhere."

While, historically, student affairs divisions have worked exclusively on programs outside of academics, the direction of the department has changed in recent

"Most recently, student affairs nationally has been reshaping itself to be more about the total student experience, helping to foster student learning and to provide a very integrated learning experience for students," Haggard

Haggard, previously the associate vice chancellor of student affairs at Western Carolina University, joined UNC Asheville in July to help re-establish the student affairs division on campus. Provost Mark Padilla led the division from March 2004 until this

"This re-establishment of the division was to insure that this university was putting the appropriate energy into a high quality student experience," Haggard

Haggard said he chose to lead the new division because UNC Asheville has more potential to



become a university that provides a valuable student experience.

The division of student affairs contains the residential and citizenship education programs, dining services, the Highsmith University Union and various departments that affect a student's experience outside the classroom. Dean of Students Jackie McHargue and Director of Campus Life Calvin Kelly also recently joined the campus with Haggard.

encourages students to become active members in their communities and learn how to apply their education outside of the classroom, according to Haggard.

"It's the responsibility of all the functional areas in student affairs to encourage students to become fully engaged in their academic time management and leadership work, fully engaged in being a productive member of the university community and fully engaged with all of the learning opportunities," Haggard said.

The division provides unity among the departments under it. This will benefit students on campus, according to John Bucher, director of campus recreation and the Highsmith University Union.

"For the first time in a long time, we'll know that we have some shared goals, and we'll

work towards those together," Bucher said. "Students will notice people like me are happier and getting along better, and hopefully doing our jobs better."

With this new sense of team work, students will see mon diverse activities happening at the Highsmith University Union according to Bucher.

"Even more than we have in the past, we'll see things going on here, and things that are not just product of the Highsmith staff, but are products of other areas on campus," Bucher said. "Ideally, there will be more types of (activities) going on here.

Not only will students learn how to apply their education to areas outside of the classroom but they will learn other skills that are necessary for success beyond college, according to Bucher

'Hopefully some of the things The student affairs division they get from student affairs are things that are really going to help them when they get out of college and have to have a real job and have some real consequences for how they perform," Bucher said, "Some of that they can pick up in class and some of that they can't."

Students learn skills such as through student organizations, according to Carrie Jordan, junior history student, who joined the Student History Association, the Humanities Student History Association and University Ambassadors.

"It's definitely taught me time management, communication and leadership capabilities that I might not have had," Jordan said. "It really draws on your skills now where you're going to use them more.

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