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Crustacean named to honor chancellor

SARAH VAN SCHAGEN
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Scientists all over the world will now recognize Chancellor James Leutze's name and learn about his commitment to environmental conservation. Biology professor Robert George made this possible by naming an entire genus—a group of related species—after the chancellor.

"[Leutze] impressed me [with] his dedication to the conservation of our natural resources," George said. Even before coming to UNCW, Leutze created the "Globe Watch Program," which is a television program focused on international issues. George praised the program for its "contribution to international understanding." Leutze has offered support to environmental groups and increased awareness about many environmental issues while at UNCW. He also has supported efforts to designate about 25 percent of the campus as a conservation area.

"During his 11-year tenure, there has been a history of strong support for programs such as... the building of the new Center for Marine Science at Myrtle Grove and the environmental science program," said Mark Lanier, special assistant to the chancellor.

The genus named for the chancellor, *Leutzeiscus*, as well as several other newly identified organisms belonging to other families are described in George's article in the *Journal of Natural History*. One organism, *Leutzeiscus jehamoni*,

was named for George's mother, Jehamoni Roberts. The organisms are all isopods—small crustaceans related to shrimp—and were found off the coast of North Carolina at a depth of about one-mile.

George said the organisms living at the bottom of the ocean are largely unknown and live in unexplored areas.

"The deep sea, even in our own backyard, tends to be undiscovered, unexplored," he said.

George studies the deep-sea coral reefs such as the Oculina Reef system, which is a continuous reef 23 miles from shore that reaches toward the coast of Florida. As a marine conservation biologist, George is very concerned about the effects of global warming and fishing on these areas and is working to get the government to make it a protected area. This is one of the reasons George decided to honor Leutze's efforts to pro-

tect the environment.

In the early 1990s, Leutze began a series of documentaries that focused on the Carolina coast. Lanier said. The first of these documentaries titled the origin of the Cape Fear River Research Program, which researches ways to preserve and protect the Cape Fear River.

Leutze's fourth documentary, "Planetary American Dream," was his first to air on public television from Maryland to Florida in addition to being shown on UNC-TV, Lanier said. The program addressed the conflict of meeting the needs of urban growth while protecting the environment. The documentary won four awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, including the Award of Excellence for Documentary.

Lanier said Leutze's next project is a documentary focusing on the issue of water scarcity.



Chancellor James R. Leutze

Board of trustees approve tuition hike

MARC MAREADY

STAFF WRITER

Students' wallets could feel even tighter next fall, if the UNCW board of governors OK's a proposal sent by the UNCW board of trustees.

The trustees voted Tuesday to send Provost John Cavanaugh's tuition increase proposal to the University of North Carolina board of governors, which means that UNCW students could see a \$400 increase in tuition for the next year.

The vote passed by an 11-1 vote, with the only dissenting vote coming from SGA President Adrien Lopez, who was upset that the decision to increase tuition was made so quickly and without much concern about student input.

The need for tuition increases is due to shortfalls in the state budget, the fact that UNC does not have an alumni base as old as other UNC schools and the lower funding the state provides annually to UNCW when shown against with comparable schools in the system, said Mark Lanier, special assistant to the chancellor.

"(SGA is) not saying that we don't agree with a tuition increase, but we should wait until we have a five-year plan in place," Lopez said. "It was a rushed process."

The request for each UNC campus to develop a five-year tuition increase plan came from the board of governors. Lopez said she thinks it is irresponsible to vote on a tuition increase when increases for the four years to follow have not been brought to the table.

"Our idea is that we shouldn't

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Local politics meet classroom

UNCW NEWS BUREAU

A new face in the university's political science department could give students a closer look at community politics in action.

New Hanover County Commissioner Bill Caster is bringing his experience as an elected official to the college classroom by teaching Contemporary American Political Issues this semester.

"This course focuses on significant local, state and national issues and their relationship with the American political process. With his participation in local politics in the last several years, Caster brings a hands-on approach to the learning experience.

Caster holds an undergraduate degree in engineering from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and a Master in Oceanography from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate school, as well as two professional degrees from Golden Gate University, a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Public Administration.

Caster said teaching is a rewarding opportunity for him.

"I find the atmosphere exciting and enjoy the students and teaching. I believe my political, military, business and life experiences will be interesting to the students," Caster said. "I hope I can continue teaching."

As a visiting professor, Caster brings a closer link to the Political Science Department and local government. He is a member of the UNCW Master of Public Administration Advisory Board, and he has worked with other political science professors on different projects.

"I have a close relationship with the political science department. I do feel the department is reaching out to elected officials in the region," he said.

"I want the students to have some understanding of local government and the tremendous effect it can and will have in their lives. It may not be evident now, but I believe it will later," said Caster, at the last county commissioner's meeting.