

Campus NEWS

UNC leaders learn about possibility of African study

By Anthony Nelson

ARGUS REPORTER

Chancellor Martin led a delegation of University of North Carolina system administrators in South Africa to discuss expanding the University of North Carolina Exchange Program (UNC-EP). Dr. Olasope Oyelaran, director of International Programs at Winston-Salem State University traveled along with Martin and other colleagues from N.C. State University, N.C. A&T University, the director of UNC-EP and the UNC systems associate vice president for academic affairs.

Martin and his colleagues visited five institutions in the Western Cape with the intent of creating different venues for students in the UNC system to be involved with the exchange experience in South Africa.

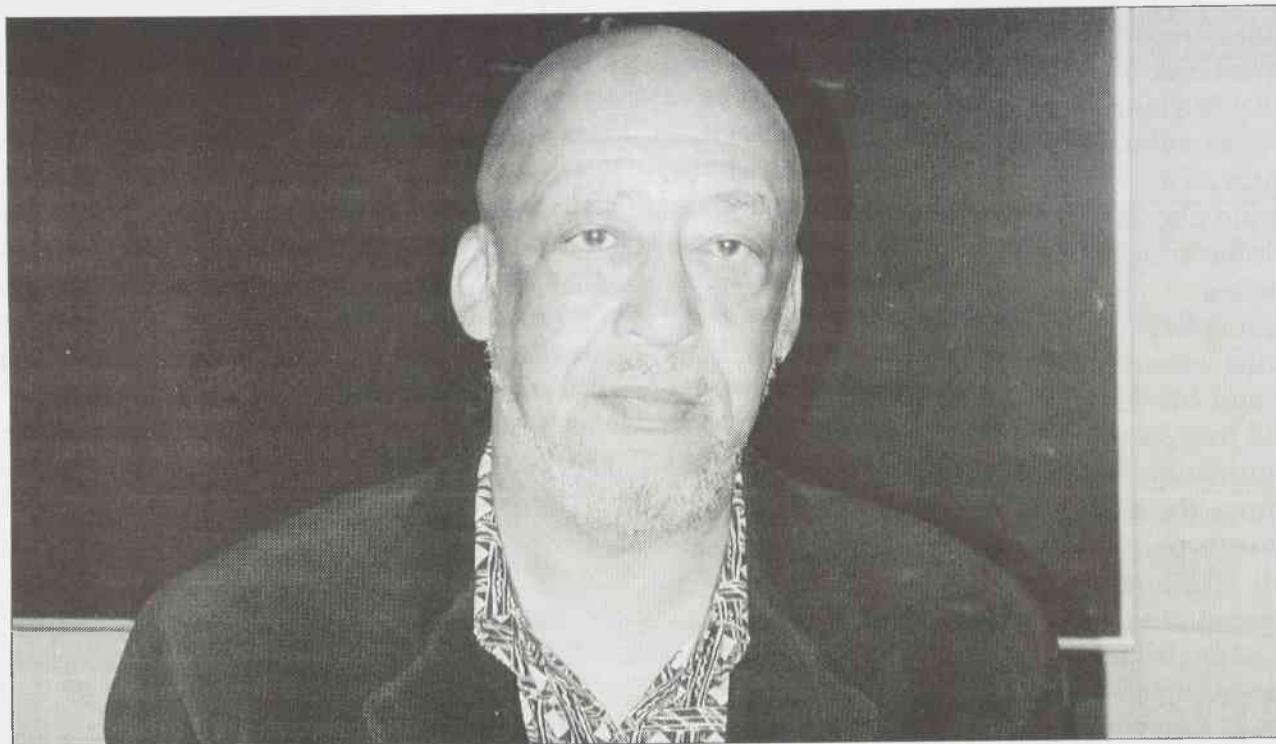
"This would create a very high culture for our students to have an opportunity to experience in a changing political community. Our students will be able to make judgments between the qualities of life here in the U.S. in comparison with the qualities of life in S. Africa," Martin said.

Many improvements have been made at WSSU to facilitate student life and to enhance the educational experience.

The Student International Association is a newly formed organization that is committed to providing opportunities

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The Write Stuff



Argus photo by Keith Caesar

Award-winning playwright, screenwriter and poet Robert Earl Price stopped by WSSU last month as his play, *Hush: Composing Blind Thomas Wiggins*, was featured during the ArtsIgnite Festival from Sept. 27 to Oct. 12.

Nelson wins Black and Gold pageant

By Maria Singleton
ARGUS FEATURES EDITOR

The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. held its annual Miss Black and Gold pageant Sept. 28.

This year's winner was Melissa Nelson, a junior molecular biology major who competed against five contestants.

The pageant consisted of five sections: business wear, talent, swimsuit modeling, formal wear and a question and answer section. For her talent,

Nelson performed a unique rendition of the skit, "Grandma to Baby."

Dressed as a gray-haired grandmother in a housecoat on one side of her body and a scantily-clad teen on the other, Nelson had the crowd shaking their heads in wonder at her originality. Her back and forth recital of lines as both grandmother and granddaughter only added to the act.

The Pi Omicron Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,

of which Nelson is a member, was also on hand to congratulate their sister.

In regards to winning the pageant, Nelson said: "I am very happy, all of us are very talented and I think we did our best."

As the reigning Miss Black and Gold for the 2002-03 term, Nelson's plans are "to work very hard for the Alphas and be very active in their organization and what they plan to do with the community."

California sorority deaths prompt \$100 million suit

By Keith Caesar

ARGUS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc is facing a \$100 million lawsuit that has been filed against the sorority after two pledges in Los Angeles were found drowned, according to reports from CNN.com.

The Web site states that Kristin High, 22, and Kenitha Saafir, 24, died Sept. 9 at Dockweiler State Beach near Playa del Rey. Both of the women were students at California State University - Los Angeles and were pledging the

Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority.

The youngest of the two, High, was the mother of a 2-year-old and was engaged to be married.

High's family is alleging that several members from the sorority were with the girls at the time, which included two other pledges.

The lawsuit claims that both women were forced to lose days of sleep as they had to endure difficult and embarrassing chores for sorority members.

Also, before entering the water,

the lawsuit alleges that the two had to engage "in a tiring set of rigorous calisthenics on the sucking sand of the beach."

The two women were wearing jogging clothes and tennis shoes when they went into the water. It is also alleges that they were blindfolded and had their hands bound.

The lawsuit calls AKA's policy against hazing "a sham," as it named the Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc., the regional chapter and the individuals from the sorority who were present that night.

In a statement to *The News Argus*, a member of the Gamma Lambda chapter said, "We as chapter members do not condone any acts of hazing therefore we can not publicly disclose information concerning another chapter.

"We are an organization that encourages scholarship, service and sisterhood."

And while the the lawsuit has been filed, the investigation into what went wrong that night is

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