

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## BCC Head Considers New Post

Professor Gerald Horne will decide whether to take a Fulbright professorship in China within three weeks.

By ANGELA MERS  
Staff Writer

The Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center and the Institute of African-American Research could lose their director for at least a year if Professor Gerald Horne decides to accept a professorship at the University of Hong Kong.

Horne said he must decide within the next three weeks whether he would continue to teach at UNC-Chapel Hill or accept a one-year Fulbright professorship.

"I am not really sure (of my decision), but I am leaning in that direction (of choosing the University of Hong Kong)," he said.

Horne said he was seriously considering the offer, which he received a few days ago. The Fulbright professorship program allows professors to teach and research at universities abroad.

Horne said he might return to the University after the one-year professorship, if he accepted, but he would also explore various options for when he returned to the United States.

If Horne decided to accept the professorship, he would leave his position as director of the BCC and the Institute of African-American Research at the end of the semester.

Amanda Greene, vice co-chairwoman of the BCC Advisory Board, said Horne's efforts for the BCC had made a huge difference since his arrival in 1996. "If he leaves, he will be sorely missed, especially in areas of African-American scholarship and fund raising for the BCC," she said.

Students planning to go to Cape Town, South Africa, with the Burch Research Seminar might have to postpone or cancel their plans for next fall if Horne goes to Hong Kong.

In the South Africa research seminar, Horne planned to take students to Cape Town to study issues of race relations.

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## Students Must Pick Rooms on Web

Housing officials say they have fixed the problems that made the online system crash last year.

By KATIE ABEL  
Staff Writer

Housing officials said Tuesday they were confident that, although nearly all students would now be required to register online for campus housing starting March 22, students would not encounter the computer problems they faced last year.

The online housing registration system crashed last year after the server

could not handle the number of students who were trying to access the system simultaneously.

"Our systems people have been working with Academic Technology & Networks so that the system will be able to handle a much larger number of student hits," said Rebecca Casey, assistant director of University housing.

Casey said students could register online 24 hours a day during the three-day period, and there would be no reason for students to rush to register.

She said students who wanted to remain in their present rooms would be given first priority when registering.

Students would then be given room choice precedence over other students according to their personal identification

numbers, Casey said.

Only a few groups of students will not register over the Web, including athletes, returning and new resident assistants and former residents of Spencer Residence Hall who wish to move back into the renovated building, Casey said.

She said a lot of work had been done on the system during the past year to make sure it could now accommodate all students. "It has been tested again and is ready to use," she said.

ATN executive Director Steve Jarrell said the problems that occurred last year were due to the fact that the system had still been in the experimental stages.

"In retrospect, we should have held off putting up the system," he said. "We were under pressure to put it up in time

"Our systems people have been working ... so that the system will be able to handle a much larger number of student hits."

REBECCA CASEY  
Assistant Director of University Housing

for students to use if they wanted to."

Jarrell said the system software had been rewritten so the system could handle a larger number of students.

He said there had been some bugs in the software that were not recognized until a significant number of students tried to use the system.

"Sometimes it takes a real life test to realize what problems can occur," he said. "I do not see any problems with this year's registration."

Senior Les Porter from Belmont said the online system was a much more efficient way for students to register, and he hoped it would work better this year.

"I was a wreck last year," Porter said. "It was down for several days."

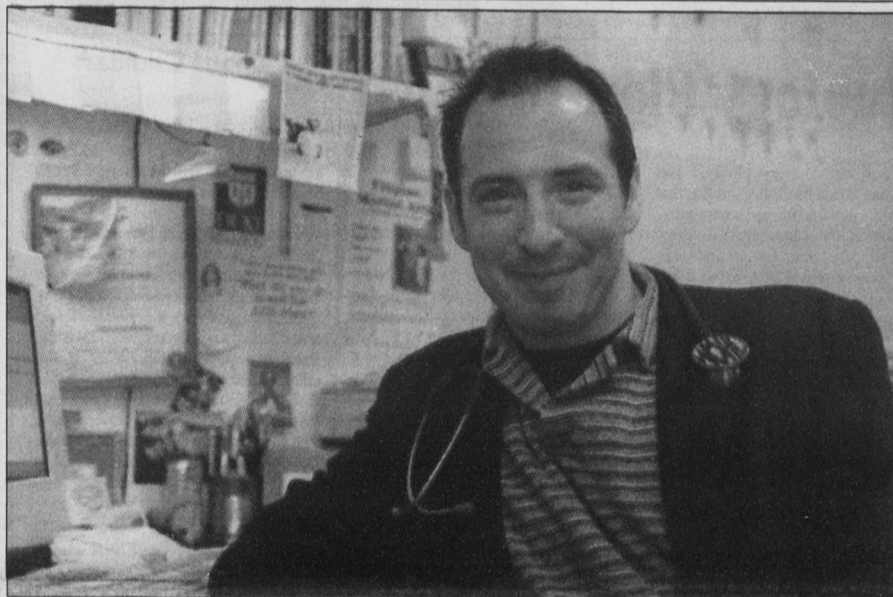
Porter said he hoped ATN officials had corrected the problems, adding that he thought online registration was both more cost- and time-efficient.

"It really is the way that registration should be done."

The University Editors can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



BCC Director Gerald Horne said he was leaning toward accepting the Fulbright professorship.



Dr. David Wohl, assistant clinical professor at UNC Hospitals, develops clinical trials to test new HIV/AIDS therapies on infected people. Wohl tends to patients in the UNC Infectious Diseases clinic and at the hospital.

FOCUS ON: THE AIDS EPIDEMIC *Sleeping with the Enemy*

## AIDS Researcher Works To Bring Victims Hope

By COURTNEY WEILL  
State & National Editor

When David Wohl entered medical school in 1988, AIDS was not mentioned in the textbooks and rarely discussed in class.

But during his residency at Duke University from 1991 to 1994, AIDS patients began filling up the wards.

Now an assistant clinical professor at UNC, Wohl said that at the time, it seemed natural to enter AIDS research.

"If you were in medieval Europe during the plague, would you want to speak to your grandchild on your knee and, when he asked you what you did during the plague, say 'I was an ophthalmologist or a plastic surgeon?'" he asked. "You would want to be proud and say 'I went

right toward the plague and tried to help people with it.'"

"And that's sort of where we are today because we have an epidemic that is spreading throughout the country ... I felt this was really the greatest need, and I was really interested in it. So it was a good match."

Wohl tends to patients in the UNC Infectious Diseases clinic and at the hospital. He also develops clinical trials - studies that test new HIV/AIDS therapies on infected people.

In his five years at UNC, Wohl, 35, has tested several drugs that attack eye infections and mouth ulcers occurring in HIV-infected people.

Wohl said he enjoyed working with

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## Board Asks Student Leaders to Petition State for Precincts

By KELLE SCHREINER  
Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Elections recommended Tuesday night that UNC student government leaders take a proposal for a single campus voting precinct to the state legislature.

Jessica Triche, UNC Student Government External Relations chairwoman, met with the board to discuss consolidating portions of five Chapel

Hill voting precincts into three or fewer precincts to make voting more accessible to students.

"We would like to work with (the board) to reduce the amount of precincts," Triche said. "We would also like to make voting less confusing for students changing precincts."

Board of Elections Director Carolyn Thomas said she did not know if consolidating precincts was feasible. "I don't know about reducing the number of

precincts, but maybe the answer is adding smaller precincts."

Thomas suggested that student government start at the state level because it would be more effective. "Maybe (students) should join other universities and take it to the state legislature."

Board of Elections Chairwoman Diane Brown said the most efficient way to address the precinct problem would be to try to enforce a no-excuse ballot.

She said the no-excuse ballot was an

absentee ballot that did not require a reason for the absence.

"A move toward a no-excuse ballot or a transfer site on campus would reduce the amount of hassle for students that move," Brown said.

Voters would still be required to send in no-excuse ballots within a three-week period. "It gives no excuse for students not to vote," Brown said.

Triche said the precinct reduction was geared toward Greek housing on

Rosemary, Raleigh and Franklin streets and students living on campus and in Odom Village.

Student government plans on following the board's advice, Triche said.

"After we do more research on the no-excuse voting, and hopefully after we go to the state legislature, we will get something accomplished."

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## Student Found Not Guilty In Honor Court Hearing

By KATIE ABEL  
Staff Writer

Dewane Dante Gillespie was found not guilty Tuesday night for intentional assault of a University police officer in the first open honor court case in more than a year.

Gillespie, a junior from Lincolnton, was arrested last October for the assault of Officer Mark Carroll at a Black Greek Council dance in the Great Hall.

The court usually operates behind closed doors, but an open hearing can be held at the written request of the defendant, except in cases involving sexual offenses, according to The Instrument of Student Judicial Governance.

Junior Tiffany Greene served as the defense counsel in Gillespie's case, and Sophomore Andrew McCullough represented the investigative counsel.

According to telephone testimony given by Carroll on Tuesday, the officer attempted to stop Gillespie from entering the Great Hall after he ran through a metal detector.

Carroll said he attempted to arrest Gillespie when the junior hit him in the mouth with his right arm and then resisted arrest.

He testified that Gillespie hit him three or four additional times on the shoulder, face and the back of the head.

But Gillespie testified that he did not resist arrest after he realized Carroll was a police officer and said he only struck the officer once to protect himself before he realized his identity.

Carroll also said he detected the odor of alcohol on Gillespie's breath, but Gillespie said he had not consumed alcohol during the night.

Gillespie read a prepared written statement to the court which stated the following: "I would like to state that I did not intentionally injure the police officer that arrested me on Oct. 24, 1998. The incident was completely an accident. I was grabbed from behind and I absolutely did not know that it was a police officer grabbing me."

"I reacted out of fear for my safety."

In addition to the testimony given by Carroll and Gillespie, Lieutenant C.E.

Swain testified that Carroll had the sufficient background to judge whether Gillespie had consumed alcohol.

Courtney Rollins and T.J. Sutton, two of Gillespie's fraternity brothers in Omega Psi Phi, testified on behalf of the defendant.

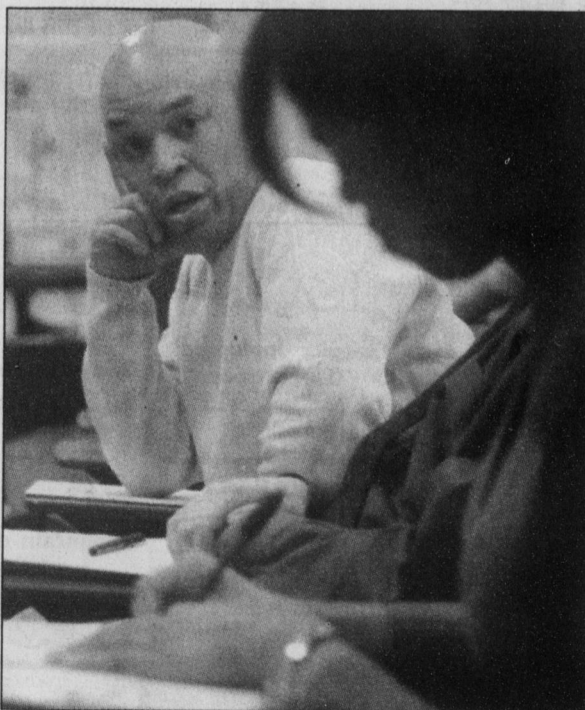
Both Rollins and Sutton backed up Gillespie's claim that he had only struck Carroll once, before he knew the officer's identity.

"It is a violation for anyone to intentionally physically assault someone," McCullough said. "It is never OK under the honor code to assault someone one or more times," he said.

Greene used her closing argument to point out discrepancies in Carroll's case, saying that he changed the number of times he had been struck each time he told the story.

"The question here is not whether Dewane assaulted Officer Carroll," she said. "The question is whether he intentionally intended to do this."

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DTH/JENNIFER GUTHRIE

Lt. C.E. Swain testifies during an Honor Court hearing Tuesday night in Greenlaw Hall. The hearing centered on a November fight that occurred during a Great Hall party, where a police officer was allegedly struck.

*It is better to live rich than to die rich.*

Samuel Johnson