

Holocaust Degree Makes Debut

By GAVIN OFF
Staff Writer

The determination and persistence of a history professor whose family died during World War II has finally paid off after years of hard work.

Dr. Irene Shur, history professor for 45 years at Pennsylvania's West Chester University, recently watched her plan to implement the nation's first master's degree program in Holocaust and genocide studies come to fruition.

Shur, a pioneer of Holocaust studies, said she first had the idea of creating a graduate program more than 20 years ago when the film "Holocaust" captured nationwide interest. "I saw an interest in students who wanted to know about (the Holocaust)," Shur said. "As soon as I opened my course, my goodness, it was wall-to-wall students."

She said the master's degree required the completion of 30 credits and an

undergraduate minor was also offered with the completion of 15 credits. She said requirements included courses in history, criminal justice and psychology.

But Shur said students did not mind taking a wide variety of courses. She also said students' religious affiliation did not determine whether or not they enrolled in a Holocaust course, since 95 percent were Christian and others Muslim.

But Christopher Browning, a UNC history professor who specializes in Eastern European and Holocaust studies, said a master's degree in Holocaust and genocide studies did not attract the interest of many UNC students. "I think it's not at all bad to have some place in the United States (offering a degree in Holocaust studies)," he said. "I don't think every school should have such a thing."

While he said enrollment in the Holocaust course he taught was impressive, Browning said UNC did not have the facilities to implement a graduate

program. "There is an interest in taking courses, but that is considerably different than a degree," he said. "Chapel Hill doesn't have the breadth of faculty to do a graduate program properly."

But Loretta MacAlpine, WCU's assistant director of public relations, said Shur was determined to make the program a success. She said the master's program would begin in fall 2000.

She said the plan finished a tremendous effort by Shur to bring increased interest and awareness to the Holocaust. "This is her life-blood," MacAlpine said. "Dr. Shur has been very supportive of this type of study for a very long time."

Deflecting the credit, Shur said student interest in the Holocaust would make the program successful. "It was the students who were pushing me," she said. "They wouldn't let me slow down."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

COALITION

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Heinke said unity among the system schools was important as students begin lobbying their legislators. "One of the problems with state government is that Chapel Hill is seen as going out on its own a lot," he said. "So when a Chapel

Hill initiative is developed, it's not given the recognition that it should be."

Although students have not fully started their lobbying campaign, two local representatives have given them positive feedback about its feasibility.

Last week coalition members met with House Speaker Pro Tem Joe Hackney, D-Orange, and Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange, chairwoman of the

subcommittee on higher education.

Both representatives said the group's proposal for combining some items of legislation into one bill was a possibility. "(Insko) said that a proposal like that would fly," Chapman said. "She said she thought it sounded great."

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GREEK FREAK

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separated the two groups and left officers in the area."

Binder said fights might break out between organizations mainly out of support for their respective fraternities and sororities. "Sometimes groups just get very excited when their fellow brothers and sisters step," he said.

McCracken said fighting at Greek Freak was unusual. "The last two or three years there's been absolutely nothing," he said. "The Alphas have done an outstanding job."

At the end of the program, the scholarship and charity checks were doled out, and Alpha Phi Alpha Inc. President LaMar Mack announced the winners.

Sorority Delta Sigma Theta Inc. from Virginia and fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha Inc. from Texas won the money.

Senior April Smith, Zeta Phi Beta sorority member at ECU, also performed at Greek Freak. She said that although her sorority didn't win, she still had a good time.

"Yeah (the judging) was fair," she said. "It would have been nice to win the money, but stepping is supposed to be about fun."

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RALLY

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Grannies," who dressed in calico dresses and straw hats.

Representatives from SEAC put on a skit protesting CP&L's expansion. SEAC Co-chairwoman Heather Yandow said student involvement was extremely important.

"This campaign is one of student input as well as community input," she said. "We're in that radius - if something

happens, we're going to be affected."

Orange County Commissioner Margaret Brown was present at the rally, as well as Chapel Hill Town Council member Kevin Foy. Brown stressed the importance of the county's involvement in the protest. "There was no way for a citizen or N.C. WARN to ask about the expansion publicly. That's where we stepped in," she said, referring to the county's suit demanding public hearings.

CP&L anticipated the protest by stationing security officers outside the main gate. These precautions proved unne-

cessary as the crowd remained calm.

The organizers of the rally, in an attempt to demonstrate responsible waste management, even equipped the main gate with on-site portable toilets.

Overall, Warren seemed pleased with the progress of the protest, citing the group's success in delaying the expansion of the waste disposal pools. "CP&L is six to eight months behind schedule," he said. "We intend to stop this thing."

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THE Daily Crossword

By Lee G. Barrow

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UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES' CAREER CORNER
Division of Student Affairs

211 Hanes Hall - ucs@unc.edu
<http://www.unc.edu/depts/career/>

Upcoming Events • Week of May 1 - May 5

SENIORS: If your plans are definite for next year (accepted a job or admission to graduate/professional school), please complete the UCS Employment/Graduate School Survey, available on the web at <http://www.unc.edu/depts/career/yendsvr.html>.

WORKSHOPS: (no sign-up necessary) Seniors must attend UCS 101 to participate in on-campus recruiting even if registered last year.

Career Clinic Mon. May 1 3:15 pm 1st Floor Nash Hall

EMPLOYER PRESENTATIONS: (Presentations open to all interested students unless otherwise specified)

The Employment Guide Tues. May 2 10am - 3pm Student Union Lobby

Americorps Tues. May 2 6:00 pm 306 Hanes

Americorps Action for Children Today (Day Care Serv. Assoc.) Wed. May 3 6:00 pm 306 Hanes

WALK-IN HOURS: Have your resume critiqued or ask a quick question of a UCS counselor. Mon. - Fri., 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

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