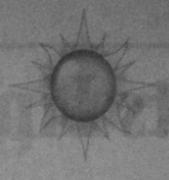


Feel Those Kicks
Heels Top Camels.
See Page 11



WE WANT YOU!
Don't forget — DTH staff
applications are due Friday
at 5 p.m. in Union Suite 104.



Sun's Out!
Today: Sunny, 75
Friday: Sunny, 80
Saturday: Sunny, 84

The Daily Tar Heel

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Thursday, September 7, 2000

Students, Faculty Examine Curriculum

Students with something to say about graduation requirements can air their views online or in person at forums this semester.

By **KIM MINUGH**
University Editor

Most college students know that free pizza is worth the trek to South Campus. But knowing how to define an educated person isn't so obvious. Despite the difficult task at hand, more than 50 students met Wednesday night in Hinton James Residence Hall to eat pizza and discuss curriculum revisions. "We're going to try to

answer the basic curriculum question, "What is an educated person?" said Tom Tweed, associate dean of undergraduate curriculum.

Tweed hosted the forum, which was open to students, faculty and staff. He is heading up efforts to revise UNC's class requirements, a process that will likely take three years.

The discussion was the first of four tentative forums scheduled for this semester. The forums are designed to increase communication between students, faculty and staff about future curriculum changes.

Tweed said curriculum changes have not been made since 1978 and are needed to keep up with the times. He introduced a three-person panel, including physics professor Laurie McNeil, American studies department Chairman Townsend Ludington and Annie

Pierce, student government's chairwoman of undergraduate affairs.

Each panelist presented their own definition of what makes an educated person — a product every major university hopes to turn out.

McNeil stressed the importance of being well-rounded and said that educated people never stop learning. "An educated person knows enough about the world to realize how much more there is to know," she said. "A good education expands your ignorance."

Ludington said an educated person understands relationships within modern culture and the surrounding world. "The habits of (an educated mind) should be inquisitive," he said.

Pierce said the University must revise its curriculum to stay abreast of a rapidly changing world. "If we want to be the best univer-

sity, we can't be stagnant," she said. "We have to continue challenging ourselves."

And while most students acknowledged the importance of breadth in curriculum, several expressed reservations about perspectives courses.

Freshman Kelly Owensby said that she came to UNC knowing her major but that the curriculum is inhibiting her progress.

"I feel like (the University) locked the door to what I want to do, and it's frustrating," she said. "It just feels like high school classes all over again, 30 times bigger."

But more seasoned voices in the room supported UNC's standing requirements.

Senior Leticia Bennett said that being forced

See CURRICULUM, Page 4

Charlotte Passes Death Penalty Moratorium

The vote makes the city the 7th municipality in North Carolina to approve a resolution expressing opposition to capital punishment.

By **CHERI MELFI**
Staff Writer

The city of Charlotte became the country's largest municipality to pass a moratorium on the death penalty Tuesday night when the City Council overrode the mayor's veto with an 8-3 vote.

Charlotte is the 29th community in the United States and seventh in the state to pass an anti-death penalty resolution. The other state municipalities with similar moratoriums are Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Durham, Davidson, Hillsborough and Orange County.

The Charlotte Observer reported that Mayor Pat McCrory vetoed the resolution because he said the city council does not have jurisdiction to decide on a death penalty resolution.

But Stephen Dear, a member of People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, said the City Council should have the responsibility of making such legislative decisions because executions are paid for with taxpayers' money.

"If Charlotte residents' taxes are supporting executions, it is the responsibility of the City Council, which represents these citizens, to decide if those executions are fair or not," he said.

He said the resolution will be an example other towns can follow for passing death penalty legislation.

"This vote will have tremendous reverberations throughout the state in the support of a moratorium," Dear said. "It shows lawmakers and community leaders throughout the state that politicians can stand up for equity and fairness in the judicial system."

Ted Frazer, who calls together meetings of the Charlotte Coalition for a Moratorium Now, said the moratorium will also help provide a fairer system for criminals.

"People of income do not get the death penalty," Frazer said. "It's basically the poor who can't afford attorneys and get court-appointed attorneys."

He said rural and poorer counties usually had a large number of criminals put to death because they could not pay for better attorneys.

"North Carolina counties that have only 65,000 people have as many people on death row as Charlotte, whose population is 10 times that," Frazer said.

He also said race is an important factor in many judicial decisions regarding the death penalty.

"Race is always an issue," he said. "If you're an African American or non-U.S. citizen who has committed a murder, you have a much better chance of getting put on death row."

Frazer added that it costs the state \$2 million more per person to carry out executions than to keep a person in jail for life. North Carolina has 211 inmates on death row, he said, and 10 are projected to be executed this year. "If the state isn't compelled by the human end of this argument, it should be compelled by the financial end."

Dear said another reason the moratorium is important is that it gives innocent people sentenced to death more time to prove they are not guilty.

"North Carolina has released 87 people from death row because they were proven innocent," Dear said.

Frazer said the moratorium will reduce the number of innocent people put to death while giving lawmakers more money and resources to find ways to prosecute those who are guilty.

"You need to ask yourself if you can make a system that is fair," Frazer said. "If you can't, you need to ask yourself how many people you want to sacrifice, and if you want to live in a country that sacrifices."

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

Changes Afoot for Pedestrian Safety

Committee Created to Find Ways to Make Campus Safer

By **ELIZABETH BREYER**
Assistant University Editor

Bright-yellow signs and concrete traffic islands are only the first of many improvements planned for pedestrians now that a permanent committee has been formed to tackle safety issues.

Upon prompting from Chancellor James Moeser, Director of Public Safety Derek Poarch orchestrated the formation of the Pedestrian Safety Committee, to continue the work that an informal group began last year.

Efforts to protect pedestrians began in earnest after the death of Fusayoshi Matsukawa, a UNC Dental Fellow killed in November as he was crossing Manning Drive.

Poarch, the head of the new committee, said, "I feel, after having submitted the report and receiving this

charter back, that the groundwork has been laid for this year to put more detailed plans into place."

Appointments to the committee have not been completed yet, but Poarch said he hopes to fill the remaining spots by the end of September.

Meanwhile, visible changes have been made to roads across campus as a result of last year's work.

High-visibility, yellow-green signs have been permanently placed on South Road and Manning Drive, alerting drivers of nearby pedestrian crosswalks.

A traffic island was also constructed on South Road, and Poarch said a similar one will be put up near the School of Dentistry on Manning Drive.

"It hasn't even been a year (since the committee began working on pedestri-

See PEDESTRIANS, Page 4



Students cross South Road on the new crosswalks. The safety areas were added as part of a plan to make the UNC campus safer.

DTH/SEFTON IPOCK

Walk This Way

Data shows that the most unsafe crossings on campus are on Franklin Street and South Road. Campus Police Chief Derek Poarch orchestrated a new committee to make these areas safer.

- Reported Pedestrian Crash
- ◆ Location Identified for Safety Treatments
- Medium Crash Density Areas
- Highest Crash Density Area
- Area of Campus Influence



*Total campus area pedestrian crashes: 57

SOURCE: NCDOT CRASH REPORTS, 10/1/94 TO 9/30/99

DTH / TORI NEWBERN

Provost Candidate Focuses on Dual Roles

By **MARK THOMAS**
Assistant University Editor

One of five candidates for UNC provost tackled issues Wednesday ranging from grade inflation to finances in soft-spoken tones, expressing a desire to balance the University's role as both a research and teaching institution.

Responding to questions from a small, mainly faculty and administrative audience in Wilson Library, Paul Courant characterized professors as both teachers and researchers and said the dual roles can coexist.

"I can't imagine a (university) where teaching and research don't go on together," he said.

Courant has experience of his own bal-

ancing diverse duties — he is currently both associate provost for academic and budgetary affairs and professor of economics and public policy at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

UNC's next provost will be forced to juggle responsibilities as the chief academic and financial officer for the University and will be instrumental in allocating the University's budget. "The (responsibility of the) budget belongs in the provost's office," he said. "You just have to make sure the budget gets in the way of decision-making as little as possible."

Courant next turned his attention to a source of contention at UNC — reforming grading standards.

He noted that inflated grades are a

national problem, but he did not advocate any course of action on the part of University administrators. Instead, he put the burden on potential employers and graduate schools to determine the value of particular grades.

"We must really look at what departments the inflated grades are coming from," he said. "Students and faculty know what the easy courses are; potential employers take that into account."

Courant discussed his own academic background as well as his plans for the University's intellectual climate.

In past interviews, Chancellor James Moeser has said he wants a provost who has a background in the sciences.

But Courant lacks expertise in scientific fields. "I don't know how that will

affect my being selected," he said.

Courant noted that the role of studies in the humanities and arts are essential to the learning experience.

"I think the humanities describe and enrich our lives in ways the sciences don't," he said. "It is impossible for me to conceive of a university without them."

He said UNC would present a unique and significant opportunity to its next provost, and he would like to accept the challenge if the position is offered to him. "I am a pretty good technician and want to get a sense of how things work (at UNC)," he said. "It is something I have only begun to do."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.



DTH/KATHERINE EAKER

Provost candidate Dr. Paul N. Courant, from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, discusses his future plans for UNC at a forum Wednesday.

Man invented language to satisfy his deep need to complain.

Lily Tomlin