

Students Express Views on New BCC

By Rachel Clarke
Staff Writer

Students gathered Wednesday afternoon to hold a civil discussion about an issue that has divided campus for years – the new freestanding Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center.

About 20 people came to the "Around the Circle" discussion titled "The Sonja Haynes Stone Segregationalist Center – True or False?"

Senior Kameishia Wooten, the facilitator of the event, said the discussion was timed to coincide with today's groundbreaking ceremony for a freestanding BCC.

The BCC is scheduled to move from the Student Union into the freestanding structure in the fall of 2002.

Wooten said the BCC chose the topic because many people on campus have expressed reservations about the new building. "We wanted to have a discussion so students could come and address the issues and also so we could help clear up some misconceptions," she said.

Assistant program coordinator for the BCC Nadera Malika-Salaam said she thinks negative attitudes toward the center stem from ignorance.

"People don't even know the difference between the (Black Student Movement) and the BCC, and they are fundamentally different things," she said. "One is a university department – the BCC, and the other is a student group – the BSM."

The group also discussed the possibility of calling the new building a mul-

ticultural center rather than one designed around black culture.

But Ellis Keeter, a junior English major, said he doesn't think the present name is divisive. "I don't really think a name prevents people from getting involved."

Keeter then directed the discussion with another question, asking if a new building is better than just remaining in the Union.

Senior communications study major Corey Bell said he thinks the new center will make it easier to reach out to students. "If you're trying to reach a bigger audience, you need a bigger facility to accommodate everyone," he said.

Wooten said the center's current office in the Union is inadequate. "This space is extremely small for the things we do," she said. Wooten said the BCC works with local children, plans events and puts on many programs.

But Bell did express one doubt about the new center. "It would be nice if everyone could have one, and maybe this is a start," he said. "But I don't know how realistic it is to build other cultural

centers."

Senior biology major Mimi Patel agreed, questioning why the BCC couldn't be a cultural center for everyone.

She said it would be very difficult for every different group on campus to have its own building, and that the new center should accommodate all cultures.

This year, several campus organizations have begun a campaign for a center representing the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students on campus.

Caroline Martens, director of the North Carolina Literary Festival, said the new building is a step in the right direction.

"There may come a day when there is a very big multicultural center that can accommodate all groups," Martens said. "We want all groups to be accommodated, but you're the pioneers, and that's wonderful, but it's also a big responsibility."

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

Bush Admits Readiness To Compromise on Plan

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON – President Bush said Wednesday he's ready to compromise on his \$1.6 trillion, 10-year tax cut. "I'm a practical man. I want to get it done," he said.

After his second huddle in as many days with congressional budget negotiators, the president said in an interview with The Associated Press that he recognizes his tax plan will have to be trimmed in order to pass the House and Senate.

"It's going to be less than \$1.6 (trillion) and greater than 1.2 and we've got to figure out how to make it work," Bush said.

"The definition of reasonable is: Who will vote for it at this point in time? We're now down to counting votes. ...

We've come from the ideological to the practical."

Wednesday morning, Bush met at the White House with a handful of moderate Democratic senators, including Montana's Max Baucus.

On Tuesday, Republican leaders huddled with Bush, who then had Sen. John Breaux over to dinner.

As House and Senate negotiators hammer out differences between the budgets each chamber recently passed, Bush pressed them to "prioritize individual rate cuts, across-the-board rate cuts."

Otherwise, he declined to say how his original tax plan should be trimmed to meet the smaller cost.

"First of all, define the size of the pie and then we can figure out the slices," Bush told the AP.

Campus Calendar

Today

10 a.m. – **Help victims of domestic violence** by donating your out-of-service cell phone.

Bring it to the Pit between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Phones must include chargers and be less than 5 years old.)

11 a.m. – Dr. Tamar Schlick, the Burroughs Welcome Fund/FASEB visiting professor in the basic medical sciences, will present a seminar titled "A Trajectory of DNA From Applied to Basic Research" at the School of Public Health, Rosenau Hall.

3:30 p.m. – A round table discussion examining the **knowledge-based economy in Europe and America** will take place in 39 Graham Memorial.

6 p.m. – **Professor Karolyn Tyson** will speak about **minority-tracking in the U.S. educational system**. Come to the Campus Y basement for information, discussion and refreshments!

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Second Annual UNC Women's Health Research Day

Thursday, April 26th

Morning Program (9-12:15)

(Ibrahim Conference Room, McGavran-Greenberg)

Guest Presentation (11:00am)

Donna L. Vogel, MD, PhD

Director, Fellowship Office, National Cancer Institute, and Chair, Research Subcommittee, Office of Research on Women's Health, NIH

A Women's Health Research Agenda for the 21st Century

Afternoon program (2-4:45)

(Auditorium, Tate-Turner-Kuralt)

Keynote Speaker (3:30)

Diana Petitti, MD, MPH

Director of Research and Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente, Southern California

Hormone Replacement Therapy and Disease Risk: Will We Ever Know the Truth? (And Will We Believe It, If We Do?)

No registration required.

Jointly sponsored by the North Carolina Program for Women's Health Research and the BIRWCH Faculty Development Program

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