



Do something for the
environment!



Choose Duke

Where environmental science and policy come together

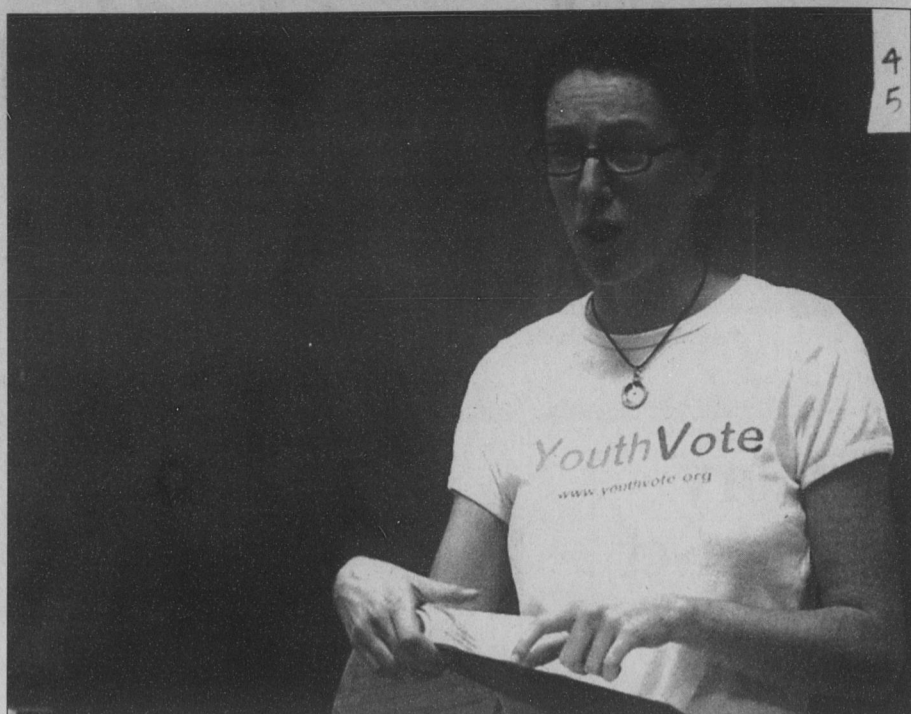
Earn a Master of Environmental Management (MEM) or Master of Forestry (MF) Degree. Or, take advantage of undergraduate and graduate courses at the Duke Marine Lab.

www.env.duke.edu • 919-613-8070



NICHOLAS SCHOOL OF THE
ENVIRONMENT AND EARTH SCIENCES
DUKE UNIVERSITY

Please join us Nov. 1 for
Prospective Student Visitation Day



DTH/LAURA BERNARD

Megan DeSmedt speaks to students at a Youth Vote Coalition training session Wednesday night in Gardner Hall. North Carolina Public Interest Research Group co-sponsored the event to educate student voters.

Coalition, NCPIRG Strive To Increase Youth Voting

By GILLIAN BOLSOVER
Staff Writer

Over the next 12 days, Triangle-area residents could receive an unexpected visitor as a result of a study conducted by Yale University on national youth voter habits.

The Triangle is one of 12 sites participating in a project identifying methods that could be used to raise the turnout among voters aged 18 to 24.

Prior studies indicate that 20 percent of registered youths actually vote — compared to 50 percent of all registered voters in the United States.

The voter study is being conducted by Yale in collaboration with the national Youth Vote Coalition and the N.C. Public Interest Research Group, among others.

YVC, a nonpartisan organization, is dedicated to increasing voter turnout, educating voters and encouraging candidates to address youth issues. NCPIRG is a liberal-leaning organization that largely focuses on environmental issues.

Megan DeSmedt, a representative from NCPIRG, trained 16 UNC students Wednesday evening to contact potential voters in the Triangle area.

DeSmedt said that, not surprisingly, Bowles and Dole have not addressed the issues pertinent to young people in their debates. Politicians campaign to senior cit-

izens, she said. If the trend is not reversed, by the time the young people age, they will be disengaged from politics.

Research shows that contact by members of organizations like YVC and NCPIRG increased the likelihood of young people voting by 10 percent during the 2000 general election, DeSmedt said.

Studies also have shown that peer-to-peer interaction raises the turnout, DeSmedt told the volunteers.

All participants will receive advice on where and how to vote, and some will receive extra candidate information. "We are not just registering people," DeSmedt said. "We are not just educating people. We are making sure that people actually get out and vote."

To achieve this, the YVC volunteers directly will contact selected citizens between today and Nov. 5. "We will be knocking on doors of people registered and giving them fliers," she said.

Participants also will be asked to sign the "I Pledge To Vote" sheet to affirm their commitment to vote Nov. 5.

There are 11,000 registered voters in Orange County whose doors could soon

receive a knock from an YVC volunteer, DeSmedt said. The study's control group will not be contacted by YVC volunteers.

The Triangle area was chosen for the study because of its high student population, she said. Because many students do not change their voting districts when they come to campus, they are relatively underrepresented, she said. But YVC is working to change that reality.

About 50 volunteers began work in the Triangle area two weeks before Fall Break. At UNC, 1,000 people were registered through on-campus registration drives, DeSmedt said.

UNC student Sanja Bosman, a junior English major, is participating in the program to receive credit for her APPLES internships.

Bosman said she volunteered because she identified with the aims of YVC. "I am a pretty political person. I just want to get the youth more involved in democracy and make candidates listen to what (young people) are saying."

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

"I just want to get the youth more involved in democracy and make candidates listen to what (young people) are saying."

SANJA BOSMAN
UNC Junior

Office Looking at Importance Of UNC to Economy of State

UNC has returned state dollars threefold

By ESHANTHI RANASINGHE
Staff Writer

University officials are constructing a biennial report showing UNC's role in North Carolina's economic status and development, possibly providing evidence of the University's essential contributions to the state.

The University's Office of Economic Development is constructing the report, called "The Impact of Carolina on the Region's and State's Economy."

"(The report) is a continuation of something we've done in the past," said Michael Luger, director of the office and a public policy professor. "We were asked to assess the ways to measure the importance of UNC to the state's economy."

The report was first constructed in 1993 and, until recently, was updated informally.

The OED has made it a biennial

report, planning to resubmit surveys and conduct new research every couple years.

The report illustrates UNC's influence over the local and state economy. According to figures from the 1993 report, for every dollar the state legislature appropriates to the University, it returns \$3 to the state, earning back the state's investment Luger said.

Luger said UNC's ability to attract and retain professionals — such as doctors, lawyers and business leaders — contributes greatly to the state's economic status.

The University also brings in several new businesses and provides employment opportunities for N.C. residents.

"(The report) is one way for us to show to the legislature and the public in general how important universities are, especially this one," Luger said.

The report, which will be completed

in the spring, will probably contain results very similar to those in previous reports, Luger said.

Officials at the office have assembled statistical data from University purchasing information files, special events offices, athletics and other sources, along with using software to conduct multiplier analysis on the data.

Researchers are working on collecting primary information by surveying faculty and students to find out if UNC affected their decision to come or stay in North Carolina versus moving to a different state.

"Certainly a significant number of University students (stayed in North Carolina because of UNC) because you all are a very accomplished group with lots of options," Luger said.

"If UNC weren't available, it would have been another university ... in another state."

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

Campus Calendar

Today

12:20 p.m. — To celebrate U.N. Day, please join the **United Nations Organization** for a discussion on the situation in Iraq. The guest lecturer is political science Professor Jurg Steiner. The discussion will be held until 1:20

p.m. in the Student Union. For more information, contact Saba at skhan@email.unc.edu or Karine at dube@email.unc.edu.

4 p.m. — "Art in the Dark": Watch the art light up as the sun goes down. The **Creative Outlets Committee of the Carolina Union Activities Board** is sponsoring an outdoor twilight exhibit of UNC student artwork until 9 p.m. in the Pit. Come enjoy refreshments, music and great student artwork.

6:30 p.m. — "Apu, Who Are You?" Sangam presents a forum in Union 224 on South Asian stereotypes and what it means to be a minority.

10 p.m. — The **Minority Affairs Committee of student government** is hosting a mixer, social and party at

Billiards 'n Thangs, located at 136 E. Rosemary St. Suite 103, above NV. The cost of admission is \$3.

Saturday, Oct. 26

7 p.m. — The Transforming Love Community, a Unity Church in Chapel Hill, plans to host "Casino Night" at the American Legion Post on Legion Road. Transforming Love Community is a spiritual center that teaches the practice of living life from the inside out. All that is required is an admission ticket (or \$20 at the door).

Ten dollars of the admission price will be returned to each guest in the form of gaming tokens or "chips," which can be used to play games or bid on auction items.

The Daily Tar Heel

P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515
Kim Minugh, Editor, 962-4086
Advertising & Business, 962-1163
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245

One copy per person; additional copies may be purchased at The Daily Tar Heel for \$.25 each.

© 2002 DTH Publishing Corp.
All rights reserved