

## Professors Must Push Honor Code

For the past few months, the Committee on Student Conduct and a chancellor-appointed task force have been toiling away, taking a scrutinizing eye to the student judicial system.



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UNIVERSITY COLUMNIST

And as the time gets closer for the committee to release its findings and recommendations, the University needs to realize that these changes will not be enough.

The committee certainly has discussed productive revisions, such as clarifying what constitutes violations and adding the option of giving an "XF" grade, which would signify that a student received a failing grade as a result of cheating or plagiarizing.

It seems like more energy, however, needs to be put into informing students so they don't find themselves confronted with Honor Court charges to begin with.

The judicial branch has taken great strides this year in making itself more visible to the general student body, engaging in campus outreach and hosting Honor and Integrity Week, which included an appearance by Dean Smith and a mock Honor Court hearing that charged Student Body President Jen Daum with academic cheating.

But the judicial branch is not necessarily the most important contact between the student body and the Honor Court system.

It is up to the professors, instructors and teaching assistants to own up to that responsibility, especially when academic cheating cases often are the most common type of case that comes before the Honor Court.

Students, especially those who have reached a college level, should know better than to plagiarize or to cheat during an exam, but many UNC students have fallen prey to the appeal of the easy option.

Just from Aug. 15 to the end of September this year, the Honor Court heard nine cases regarding academic cheating violations.

These statistics show that professors and instructors do take the Honor Code seriously through their willingness to turn in students they believe have cheated, but all professors and instructors need to display that seriousness on the first day of the semester.

But for the most part, students cheat with the thought that they won't get caught.

They are lulled into that belief by the numerous professors and instructors who don't require a signed Honor Code pledge or who don't back up that pledge with any verbal weight.

Somewhere in between the first-day ice breakers and the distribution of the syllabuses, professors and instructors need to lay out how the Honor Code applies to the course work and how they will scrutinize the work and student activity to make sure it complies with the code.

They also need to fully explain what they consider academic cheating, dissolving students' fear of getting sucked into the Honor Court when they didn't even know that they cheated.

Two years ago, the University got a rare gift in the form of an open hearing when two students wanted to go public with what they believed were unmerited academic cheating charges against them.

The two students were part of a computer science class whose professor turned in 24 students for unauthorized collaboration on a code-writing assignment.

The students contended that their professor never clarified that they could not consult classmates on the assignment, while the professor insisted that he did.

Both students were found guilty, but at least one student had the conviction later overturned.

The whole Honor Court hearing process could have been avoided, however, if the professor had given students written notification of his stance on how the Honor Code applied to the coursework.

Professors and instructors need to let students know that honor is to be taken seriously at UNC.

And although it's great to know that people are working to ensure that students will get a fair shake in Honor Court, it's even better to keep them out of the court to begin with.

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# Congress Passes Bill to Ease Appointments

Larson and Hiller created Title VIII

By KATE HARRINGTON  
Staff Writer

Student Congress created Tuesday an addition to the Student Code that clarifies the rules on external appointments.

A bill introducing Title VIII of the Student Code was introduced by Tony Larson, former speaker of Congress, and was passed by the full Congress.

The addition to the code takes sections from other titles and places them together to avoid confusion and to promote efficiency when approving all stu-

dent government external appointments.

Title VIII does not contain any new provisions, said Student Body Vice President Aaron Hiller, who helped Larson with the project and who is in charge of many external appointments for the executive branch of student government.

"It's a matter of convenience," he said.



Former Speaker of Congress Tony Larson combined sections of the Student Code to create Title VIII.

According to the bill sent to Congress, the codification for making external appointments was "scattered and disorganized."

Larson and Hiller took a particular interest in correcting the problem shortly after student government experienced some confusion over appointing delegates to the UNC-system Association of Student Governments.

Information pertaining to appointing delegates was in both Title II and Title IV of the code, and the wording in each section was different.

"This was basically a cut-and-paste job," Larson said.

Larson, who took the time to go through the Student Code and pick out the pieces that dealt with external appointments, began working on Title

VIII a couple of months ago, Hiller said.

"It wasn't our highest priority," Larson said.

But now that all of the information pertaining to external appointments is in one place, new appointees won't have to hunt through the code.

Title VIII lists the executive branch's external appointments and the qualifications a student must have to be appointed to a committee within student government.

It also outlines the process of receiving approval from Student Congress.

*"(Changing the Student Code is) a matter of convenience."*

AARON HILLER  
Student Body Vice President

In addition, the new title delineates the process the executive branch must go through to have certain appointments exempt from the approval process.

The addition allows for growth as well. As new student government committees form and old committees are dissolved, changes easily can be made, Larson said.

"This will be easier to maintain."

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Vickie Penninger performs the popular Japanese form of healing — Reiki — on patient John Duncan. Proponents say the healing process is used to renew a person's spiritual, physical, mental and emotional energy.

## Alternative Medicine Reiki Emanates Energy in Triangle

Goal is to transfer energy to heal, help

By JOSHUA D'AGOSTINO  
Staff Writer

Vickie Penninger used to work full time as a social worker in Raleigh. But recently she cut her hours in half because of the success of her healing business, which is using a newly popular form of healing from Japan — Reiki.

"Reiki is an energy that helps a person grow spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally," Penninger said. Penninger said Reiki has transformed her life.

"Once I opened the door to my spiritual path, my happiness increased a thousand-fold," she said. "I've become much more positive and gracious."

"I've always loved helping people, and it's such a wonderful gift to be able to heal people in this way."

Reiki is the Japanese word meaning "universal life energy," an energy some believe can be found in all things.

Many people in the United States are turning to this energy as an alternative means of healing.

Its growing acceptance in the U.S. medical field is apparent in BlueCross BlueShield's decision to provide insurance for Reiki healing.

"It is being used by more and more people," said Susan Gaylord, director of UNC Hospitals' Program on Integrative Medicine.

"It's becoming a popular form of healing and therapy."

Gaylord said Reiki can be used in addition to traditional medicine, as a preventative method and in pre- and post-surgical situations.

And many people have begun incorporating Reiki into their everyday lives.

"As a volunteer medical professional, an herbalist and a strong proponent of holistic healing, Reiki classes have served to enhance my experience to

the benefit of those I help," said Reiki Master Paul Hirtle.

"As a practicing master, I carry light in my heart and share it with those I serve."

To perform Reiki, the practitioner places his hands on the patient's clothed body, and the Reiki energy flows through the practitioner into the client.

The practitioner also can perform Reiki on himself.

The energy transfer can be felt as any type of sensation — heat, cold, vibration or tingling.

The session usually lasts between 60 and 90 minutes, and most patients feel relaxed and refreshed afterward.

"I feel like every cell in my body has been vacuum-cleaned," John Duncan, a Reiki patient, said after a healing session.

Reiki can be a personal tool for healing and growth, a way to give energy to family and friends or a gentle complementary therapy to holistic

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## ACT Proposes Longer Hours In 2 Pay Lots

Plan will gather revenue, assist in solving night parking issues

By DANIEL THIGPEN  
University Editor

UNC's Advisory Committee on Transportation moved one step closer Wednesday to preparing a comprehensive long-term parking and transportation plan for the University.

During a brief meeting held just before Thanksgiving break, the committee agreed on possibly extending the operating hours of two major pay parking lots on campus.

Under the proposed plan, the Morehead and Swain lots, both of which are designated as pay operations visitor lots on campus, would extend their hours from 5 p.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday, from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Faculty and staff with daytime permits for those two lots still can park there after 5 p.m. and on weekends, the proposal states. Graduate students who teach in the lots' adjacent buildings would have to apply for credentials to park in those lots at no charge. Both lots charge \$1 an hour for parking, but ACT's proposal asks that faculty, staff and students who present their UNC ONE Cards while exiting the two lots pay only 75 cents an hour.

In addition, the NG3 lot, which serves the area near Steele Building and Caldwell Hall, would be reserved as a North Campus lot for faculty and staff after 5 p.m.

Derek Pearch, ACT chairman and director of the Department of Public Safety, said the plan's accomplishments are two-fold.

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## North Carolina Falls In Middle Nationally For End-of-Life Care

By ADAM CARDAIS  
Staff Writer

A recent study says the state's health care for end-of-life patients is not up to par, although some health care officials boast that North Carolina has some of the nation's best hospitals.

The study, "Means to a Better End: A Report on Dying in America," rated states on eight criteria using grades A through E. The study was conducted by Last Acts, a national campaign to improve care for end-of-life patients.

Judith Peres, the campaign's deputy director, said the study's objective was to rate the availability and use of U.S. end-of-life health care.

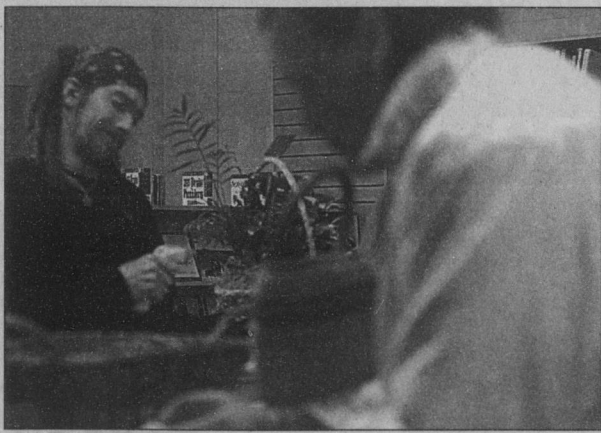
North Carolina received mostly C's and D's, getting its only A for allowing doctors to administer pain medication without undue scrutiny. "North Carolina scored in the middle," Peres said. "It's not the worst state, but it's not the best."

Most states consistently scored low on the measures, which include encouraging people to use advanced directives, a strong pain management policy and use of hospice care, she said.

Almost every state, including North Carolina, scored low on availability of care programs that seek to improve a termi-

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## Chapel Hill's New Independent Bookstore Open for Business



Owner Dan Branch (left) rings up Chapel Hill resident Susan Ketchin on Sunday night at Branch's Chapel Hill Bookshop.

By BILLY CORRIHER  
Staff Writer

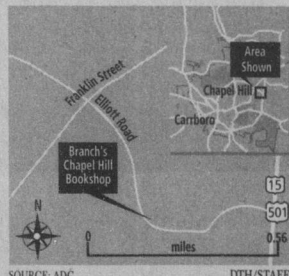
Branch's Chapel Hill Bookshop, a family owned, independent bookstore, opened its doors Friday with more business than the owners expected and a lot of positive customer feedback.

Owner Kate Branch said the new store fills the community's need for an independent bookstore that was left void after the closing of the Intimate Bookshop a few years ago.

A Durham native, Kate Branch left her demanding job as a New York City attorney to start the bookshop. "I wanted to do something different. I wanted to do something with my family," she said.

The store also will employ her mother, Pat, and her brother, Dan, she said.

Chapel Hill is an ideal location for a family owned, independent bookstore,



SOURCE: ADC

DTH/STAFF

Kate Branch said.

"I think Chapel Hill is really a community that will support an independent bookstore," she said.

Branch's customer Dilip Barman said an independent bookstore provides things you cannot get at a large bookstore. "You have people who know a lot about the books and love books, people who really care about

the customers." Branch's will focus on catering to the specific demands of the Chapel Hill community, Kate Branch said.

"We're trying to learn what people around here want," she said. "If we don't have something they want, we can order it for them."

The store is a member of BookSense, an organization that compiles a list of best sellers according to actual retail sales of books instead of wholesale numbers. This allows the store to get a more accurate measure of what customers really want, Kate Branch said.

Branch's employee Lisa Amundson said the store keeps a wide variety of books in stock, including children's books, a Spanish section and a regional authors section.

Branch's offers a relaxed atmosphere. See BOOKSTORE, Page 7