

# Dual degree makes social work divine

BY MARY MCGUIRT  
STAFF WRITER

Officials from the UNC School of Social Work and the Duke University Divinity School announced last week that they will offer a dual degree program to benefit students seeking careers in both fields of study.

The program will allow students to earn both a master of social work degree from UNC and a master of divinity degree from Duke in four years. Normally, this process would take students five years to complete.

Jack Richman, dean of the School of Social Work, said that while the school already has dual degree programs with other UNC professional schools, this program will be the first with another university.

He said only two students have been admitted to the program — both of them first-year master's degree students in the School of Social Work.

He said he hopes the program expands to seven or eight students in the next few years.

Donna Claycomb, director of admissions for Duke Divinity School, said she was amazed at the number of people who already have expressed interest in the program.

Jennifer Krill, a senior religious studies and communications major at UNC is one of these people. She already was admitted to Duke Divinity School and is applying to the School of Social Work so that she can be a part of this program next fall.

Krill said she particularly is interested in urban ministry. "I thought the two degrees would go really well together."

Richman also said he recognized ways these two degrees interrelate. "Looking at theology and spirituality makes sense in working with people."

Social workers often provide services to individuals and families dealing with issues involving death. Richman said having a knowledge about spirituality can be helpful in dealing with situations such as this.

The program's field education will let students get first-hand experience with these types of situations by placing them in prisons, hospices, crisis response centers and urban ministries, he said.

Claycomb said the program also would be beneficial to students in the Divinity School who are interested in pastoral service and outreach ministry.

She said students interested in the program will have to complete a separate application to each school. Most likely, students will spend two years at Duke and two years at UNC, but she said that during some semesters they could take classes at both schools.

Officials from both schools said they have high aspirations for the program and expect it to be beneficial for its students. "It will broaden and diversify experience for students," Richman said. "I'm excited."

Contact the University Editor at [udeshk@email.unc.edu](mailto:udeshk@email.unc.edu).

# McCain pushes for public funds

BY DAN PIERGALLINI  
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — In front of a small crowd of Meredith College students and community members U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., continued his call for campaign finance reform Monday by speaking in support of the N.C. Public Campaign Financing Fund.

McCain's speech was sponsored by the N.C. Center for Voter Education, which also hosted a luncheon at the college to raise money for the fund.

The fund will serve to pay for a nonpartisan voter guide and help fund appellate judicial candidates' campaigns, said Christopher Heagarty, executive director for the voter education center.

McCain said that more people are running for judiciary positions and that voters have little information about these candidates. "Right now most constituents do not have a clue who (the candidate) is or what he stands for."

McCain said public financing funds allow candidates to spend their time with voters instead of fund raising.

He said a similar funding program worked well for the election

of state legislators in his home state of Arizona.

Another benefit is that the fund reduces the impact that special interests groups can have on elections, McCain said.

He said that the millions of dollars judges receive in contributions from special interest groups can raise suspicion in voters.

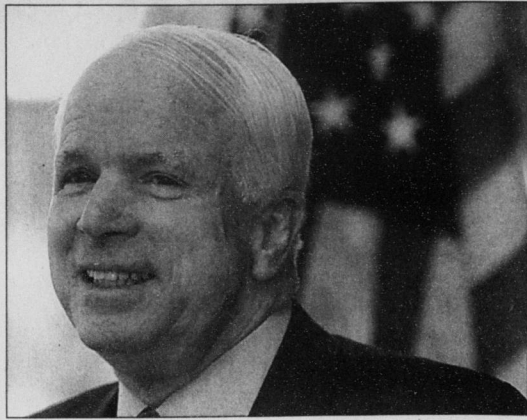
Heagarty said he was aware of several instances in which special interest groups bought judges' elections in other states.

McCain said the contributions from special interest groups are leading young voters to become disillusioned with the election system.

"My greatest concern is that young Americans will say they have had enough and not vote."

McCain also stressed the importance of free air time from television and radio stations, which give candidates a chance to express their views to the public.

After his speech McCain fielded questions on a variety of topics, including his feelings toward the Democratic presidential candidates and the situation in Iraq. But his focus was on campaign finance reform, of which he has been a staunch supporter during his



DTH/BETH FLOYD

U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speaks Monday afternoon at Meredith College. McCain supports the N.C. Public Campaign Financing Fund.

tenure in the Senate.

He co-sponsored the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, which set rules regarding congressional elections. The act has come under scrutiny recently, and its constitutionality will be decided in December when the U.S. Supreme Court hears a case challenging the

law.

McCain expressed his confidence that it will be deemed constitutional and that opponents of campaign finance reform will have to find another method to stop it.

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

# Candidates discuss impact of Habitat project

BY SARAH RABIL  
STAFF WRITER

With about 35 attendees, the Chapel Hill Town Council candidate forum hosted Monday night by the Friends of Sunrise had one of the best turnouts thus far in the campaign, but only five of the 12 candidates were present.

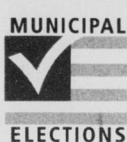
Candidates Cam Hill, Rudy Juliano, Mike McSwain, Doug Schworer and Terri Tyson were present at the forum. Incumbents Jim Ward and Bill Strom and candidates Thatcher Freund and Sally Greene were absent because of a joint meeting of the council and the town's planning board.

Moderator Steve Holdaway posed questions concerning the Habitat for Humanity project next

to the Sunrise district, noise abatement in the areas near Interstate 40 and the impact of growth in neighboring counties.

Habitat received county and local funds last November to build homes on 17 acres of property adjacent to Sunrise, located behind East Chapel Hill High School.

The Sunrise Coalition, a group of concerned neighborhood residents, has opposed the development, citing the nonprofit's lack of public accountability and inadequate research regarding impact on the surrounding area.



"The design must be consistent with the character of the area," Schworer said. "I'm not opposed to the development. I'm opposed to its density."

Schworer is a coalition founder and was one of its directors until he resigned when he began his campaign for local office.

Candidates said Habitat has a track record of building moderate-sized developments of 20 or 25 units, not the large-scale project proposed. Developing such a large tract of land, residents said, also would destroy a natural noise buffer next to I-40.

"It's clear that I-40 is going to get busier and busier and noisier and noisier," Juliano said.

Hill said that mass and distance are the best tools to mitigate noise, and Juliano added that the town's Land-Use Management Ordinance should contain guidelines for noise controls in neighborhoods.

Sunrise also sits along a rural buffer zone, an area residents and

candidates said must be protected to ensure that sprawl from nearby counties does not build up against local neighborhoods.

"What we should see is redevelopment with higher density," Tyson said, as she argued for building new homes in open pockets of developed areas rather than building them on undeveloped land.

Hill added that poor communication regarding growth between the county governments is affecting the local environment adversely.

"They're building 3,000 homes (in Chatham County), and we won't have any say in it," Hill said. "These homes are going to be closer to my house than they are to Pittsboro."

McSwain agreed that limited development along the town's periphery could bolster local charm and appeal, but said the town must do "everything possible" to provide affordable housing.

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