

**EDC**

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Epting said.

Didow said the business school was supportive of his new position and responsibilities.

The corporation began meeting in early July and grew out of recommendations from a mayoral task force on downtown business last year.

The task force cited high business turnover to argue that an oversight entity was necessary to revitalize the downtown area.

Closings of prominent businesses such as the Gap, University

Chrysler and Sephora were what led to a call for the task force.

The Town Council created a steering committee to further evaluate downtown business and creating the CHDEDC was its recommendation.

Didow said some immediate priorities for the corporation are to establish a formal mailing address and phone number for the group.

Didow said that the corporation faces the challenge to make its vision a reality and that it is premature for the board to address specific issues concerning downtown.

The group's next meeting will

be Wednesday morning in the conference room of the Chapel Hill Museum.

The group hopes to establish both short- and long-term priorities at this meeting, Didow said.

Epting said he hopes the board can begin its debate about the role of the corporation in Chapel Hill because realtors probably are wondering what the committee can do in the future.

"We are not a Downtown Commission or a Chamber of Commerce," Epting said.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

**CALABRIA**

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a force in Raleigh isn't an overnight project, he is proud of the relationships established.

Making contacts was a theme for Calabria, who said it was a top priority to meet with as many administrators as possible.

One such official was Matt Kupec, vice chancellor for University advancement. Kupec directs Carolina First, UNC's \$1.8 billion fund-raising initiative.

Kupec said he came away from the meeting, which focused on how students can aid in fund raising, impressed.

"I think he's an articulate spokesperson for the students," he said. "He's off to a great start, and we think it's going to be a good year."

Between meetings, Calabria took time to announce the creation of VoteCarolina, a program that will encourage one-stop voting at the Morehead Planetarium and provide transportation to polling sites.

He also noted that a few unforeseen issues arose, such as the need to renovate the historic Campus Y.

Officers also were able to capitalize on the opening of the space adjacent to the student government office, which will be used to provide increased interaction with clubs.

Holloway said the group was effective this summer because of its ability to adapt and capitalize on new developments.

"One of the things you learn very quickly is that everything you plan from day one gets thrown out the

window," he said. "We were really flexible."

Taking up new projects, Holloway said, allows officers the ability to continue working on platform goals throughout the year instead of falling victim to a lull.

Even with a monthly planner devoid of white space, Calabria took pause during the summer to realize the significance of the position he worked to gain.

"You never know what to expect, and there's always a lot to learn," he said.

"Being in this position has been a very humbling thing — you realize how important this University is to the students, to the state and, really, to the nation."

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**HOMECOMING**

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"Sister Hazel has received no money from the University of North Carolina," she said.

The negotiations, thought to have been near completion in mid-April, have been far from smooth. The baseline price for booking the band remained constant, but maintenance costs for the show continued to elevate the overall price for the event.

Attempts on behalf of the CAA to branch out to other campus organizations have resulted in frustration.

"So far, we've been able to lead everybody to the table, but nobody's been able to do anything," Keith said.

Meetings to seek partnership with other student organizations, including the Carolina Union Activities Board, are in the works for this week.

"At this point, we have not gone as far as getting private support," Keith said.

"We're considering our other options at this point."

The 2003 Homecoming act, Virginia Coalition, received \$2,500 for its performance.

Both Keith and Strunk said the CAA intends to be careful in its further efforts to organize a concert, taking into consideration Sister Hazel's set asking price and a lack of availability of larger venues.

The Great Hall of the Student

*"We're going to look for what's ... in the best interest, long-term, for the students."*

WILL KEITH, CAA PRESIDENT

Union, where the event was slated to take place, seats 775 at maximum capacity.

In its model contract, the band requested 30 complimentary tickets within the first 10 rows of the hall, further reducing the amount of public seating available for students.

Strunk and CAA Senior Adviser David Forsythe emphasized the financial attractiveness of the Great Hall, saying that all other campus venues are either too small or too expensive.

"We have no other venue," Forsythe said.

All considered, Keith advocated a cautious, open-minded search for an event.

"(The CAA has) to be financially responsible with the money we get from student fees ... We're going to look for what's going to be in the best interest, long-term, for the students," he said.

"We are open, as always, to suggestion."

Contact the A&E Editor at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu).

**RANKINGS**

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would think that it is like a see saw, that when you push one side down the other side would go up. In fact, we actually pushed both sides of the see saw."

Moeser said this was an especially impressive feat considering the budget cuts the University has faced. "We were getting budget cuts and no salary increases, so to me, that is a very strong indicator and tracks along with the measure of excellence."

But Judith Wegner, chairwoman of the faculty, was wary of putting too much emphasis on the rankings.

"I object to the notion that you can rank these things," she said. "It's not that the information isn't interesting. They put it into numerical form that isn't qualified. ... We've got an American fixation on ranking."

The numbers also could provide prospective students with false impressions, Wegner said.

"I think that if (prospective students) don't spend time when learning who they are and what they're looking for ... they may give (the ranking) more value than it deserves."

Wegner said more focused studies — such as those only focusing on specific aspects of universities — are more informative to applicants.

"I think the students just need to pick the best school for them," Wegner said.

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