

KNOW YOUR EDIT BOARD

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As DTH Editor, Michelle Jarboe attends board meetings and acts as a resource for board members. She has chosen not to exercise her right to vote in discussions.

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Jeff Kim has served on the board for three semesters. As the page's associate editor, he is responsible for the biweekly Viewpoints page in addition to various editing duties.

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John Kunza is a first-time member of the Editorial Board. He specializes in issues related to student government affairs and those that affect the student body.

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Joseph Starnes is a first-time member of the Editorial Board. He specializes in issues and policies related to higher education across the country.

Viewpoints will offer multiple perspectives

Past readers of The Daily Tar Heel's opinion page should be familiar with our standard fare.

Members of the DTH Editorial Board debate issues and write unsigned editorials, weekly columnists express personal views, cartoonists convey their thoughts through their art and the Readers' Forum section relays what some readers are thinking.

The daily material on the opinion page could be considered a hodgepodge of ideas brought together on a single page to highlight the divide between the news and opinion sides of the paper.

It's the job of the editorial

page editor and associate editor to oversee the page's patchwork and ensure that each component works toward the goals of the opinion section — to inform and to advocate for the interests of students.

We do our best to provide meaningful analysis of campus affairs, but the DTH certainly won't be doing it alone. Students, faculty and staff members at the University constantly are working in the environment of ideas that this paper is responsible for covering. We rely on those active and engaged individuals to hold to us to a standard of fairness and accuracy.

The Viewpoints page should

make it one step easier for readers to keep informed and to come to their own conclusions.

As the associate editorial page editor, it will be my responsibility to choose a theme for every Viewpoints page and to solicit the opinions of people with authority on each respective topic.

In the past, these pages have centered on news events and given space to guest columnists who have provided opposing sets of views on a variety of issues.

One of my favorite Viewpoints from last semester posed the question of how to recognize the University's heritage when considering Cornelia Spencer and the white supremacy that she and



JEFF KIM
ASSOCIATE EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

other historical figures associated with UNC advocated.

The controversy and protests surrounding the Cornelia Phillips Spencer Bell Award led to the creation of a University committee exploring racism in UNC's history.

Those protests brought to light a history of which I

certainly wasn't aware. They argued that the award, which honors the contribution of women at UNC, inappropriately remembers a woman with a record of bigotry.

Spencer, who also has a residence hall named for her, is often associated with her efforts to reopen the University after its brief closing from 1871 to 1875. But, as contended by Yonni Chapman, a graduate student in history, Spencer's involvement in the white supremacist movement that closed the University in 1871 is not as well known.

That Viewpoints page educated readers about a history that we should keep in mind and

explored ways in which we might deal with that history.

Other high-impact Viewpoints pages, including one on proposed changes to student fee allocations and one on Carolina North talks, also informed readers while presenting opposing views.

We hope members of the campus community will continue to keep their eyes open and to bring out problems that might be waiting under the surface. Ideas and issues from our readers are always welcome. You can contact me at 962-0750 or editdesk@unc.edu.

Contact Jeff Kim
at jongdae@email.unc.edu.

READERS' FORUM

General Assembly is wise to keep airport in operation

TO THE EDITOR:

Bravo to the state legislature for keeping Horace Williams Airport open. It's always easy to put buildings on empty land but never easy to remove them once they are built. Conversely, once an airport is closed it never re-opens.

The trends in aviation show a bright future for smaller aircraft. Businesses and individuals are increasingly choosing personal planes as airlines increase the difficulty of flying and raise their fares.

Not only that, but the use of the airport for University health services for the entire state is invaluable. With the right vision, UNC can make the airport a revenue maker instead of a revenue taker.

An aviation-related curriculum could be initiated conceivably to offset costs the University incurs, not to mention the federal funding that could be secured with the right representation in the right places.

In time the decision will prove to be the better one. All that is needed now is for the University to see the airport as an asset rather than a liability and to act accordingly.

Fred Gray
Asheville

New Arts Common should incorporate West House

TO THE EDITOR:

Regarding the controversy over UNC's plan to demolish the campus jewel known as West House, it's important to emphasize that many

people who want to see West House preserved also support the proposed Arts Common. But the University has not been convincing in its assertion that the planning for the Arts Common is too far along to incorporate West House into the design.

Among the many possible uses for the house and its charming garden (such as, for example, guest quarters for visiting artists or a cafe), the idea of a front door to the Arts Common and the entire campus is particularly excellent. Pedestrian-friendly, full of charm and perfectly located, West House would be the ideal entry point for any visitor to UNC.

The University should not permit inertia and a failure of imagination to defeat this golden opportunity. West House would immeasurably enhance UNC's interface with

those who wish to attend events at the Arts Common, to obtain information about the University or simply to visit our dynamic yet (still) beautiful campus.

Anna Hayes
Hillsborough

TO SUBMIT A LETTER: The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words and must be typed, double-spaced, dated and signed by no more than two people. Students should include their year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their title, department and phone number. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity. Publication is not guaranteed. Bring letters to the DTH office at Suite 2409, Carolina Union, mail them to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 or e-mail them to editdesk@unc.edu.

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