

RESEARCH

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 versity to organizes public talks, conferences and workshops to facilitate public dialogue about minority rights, said Robert Jenkins, director of the UNC center.

The faculty concentrates research on minority and ethnic conflict in the former Yugoslavia and the rebuilding of Bosnia and Croatia.

"These issues are at the center of many conflicts in our world today. Minority conflicts are very important to understanding the threats to international security," he said. "By studying them ... we both learn about the world and about ourselves."

The Institute of African American Research, established in 1995, annually holds the International Scholars Conference, and also sponsors the Moore Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program which is designed to encourage

minority students to pursue doctoral degrees.

William Darity, director of the institute, said the group is interested in analyzing the status and history of people from African descent world-wide, ranging from the AIDS crisis in Africa to the achievement gap in North Carolina schools.

While these older centers are making leaps and bounds in their research areas, several new and rapidly growing centers are adding to the culture of minority research.

Established last year the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies aims to provide the almost 1,000 undergraduates who take Jewish Studies courses each year with an informed perspective. The center offers a minor in Jewish studies to undergraduates.

UNC and Duke faculty and graduate students meet at a monthly seminar to share research and insights.

"(There is) a very long history involved here about a minority

that has interacted with other cultures for thousands of years," said center director Jonathan Hess said. "That brings something special to the table for discussion."

The Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations was also established last year.

Although the center is still starting up, faculty members have been working for over a decade to allow the center to hit the ground running, said Carl Ernst, director of the center.

Research at the center focuses on diverse topics which allows the center to use a cross-regional approach to avoid taking an isolated view of the Middle East, Ernst said.

Since the September 2001 terrorist attacks, he said, Americans have realized how the Middle East plays a role in their lives.

"There are 120 students in my Intro to Islam class ... They are keenly aware that the Middle East is a part of their world," he said. "A great many Americans realize that there is a huge deficit in knowledge about that region and the cultures connected to it."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

TURNOUT

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In this election, the younger generation of voters were much sought after as new voices in the U.S. democracy. But, after the votes were counted, they weren't as loud as expected.

"Generally speaking, the level of interest in politics is somewhat lower in younger people than it is with older people," Stimson said.

Almost 52 percent of voters aged 18 to 29 cast ballots in this election, a 9 percentage-point increase from the 2000 exit polls, according to the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement.

This group still trails the total electorate voting rate of 60 per-

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DONALD SEARING, POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, UNC

cent for this election.

The Associated Press reported that 115.7 million voted on Election Day. But coupled with the absentee and provisional ballots, that number is closer to 120 million.

Overall, voters aged 18 to 29 made up 18 percent of the electorate, roughly the same proportion that voted in the 2000 election.

"I think what happened in America is that each generation since the Depression generation

has been educated in an atmosphere that creates less of a sense of civic duty," said Donald Searing, a UNC political science professor.

But he said among young voters today, that trend is changing.

"I was a little surprised. Apparently if there is an increase in civic duty in (this) generation ... it didn't spill over into politics."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

CRISIS CENTER

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Flowers said the nurses do not have the power to legally decide who has been assaulted. Instead, they are trained to accurately collect evidence and compile documentation.

SANE has been fighting sexual assault at the University since 1997. Before then, nurses had a limited understanding of sexual assault cases due to a lack of specialized

training, Flowers said.

She said SANE also has been beneficial because it provides a better examination to victims of sexual violence than has been offered in the past. The group also has a sexual examiner on call at all times for specialized cases.

Jo-Anne Shortall, an emergency-room nurse in SANE, assists with evidence collection and notifies victims of their rights. She helps victims utilize the resources they are given when in need of support.

"It's very important to help people survive after a rape crisis," Shortall said.

The proceeds from the silent auction will go toward educational programs at the center and to the rape crisis hotline.

Nora Hughes, a volunteer at the center, said educational programs can be a way to reach out to children to offer support and education on sexual assault.

So far this year, the center has worked with SANE and has supported 496 victims and educated 10,220 people in its efforts to prevent sexual violence.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

ENROLLMENT

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idea of temporary classrooms.

"The focus ought to be more efficient use of our existing space," said Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for planning and construction.

The Price Sensitivity Report, which was conducted to help the Tuition Task Force determine an appropriate tuition rate, concluded that UNC officials need to construct a competitor-based price index for the in-state and out-of-state markets. Such an index would be created by using a weighted average for tuition increases at the more than 300 universities that UNC students considered in their application process, Lucido said, noting that work on the indexes

will begin soon.

The report also concluded that in-state tuition can exceed the index as long as the University provides substantial scholarship aid to offset the tuition increase. The out-of-state tuition rate cannot exceed the index for out-of-state students without losing some of those students to competing universities.

But Lucido said that although the report provided some helpful information, its findings will not guide all of the committee's decisions.

"It's another set of information that helps us make decisions about setting tuition," he said. "But it doesn't take the place of our judgment. ... We don't operate in a market-only environment."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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Dr. Tom Ricketts
 Deputy Director, Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research Professor, Health and Administration, UNC School of Public Health

Dr. William Roper
 Chief Executive Officer, UNC Health Care System Dean, UNC School of Medicine Former administrator, Health Care Financing Administration under President Reagan

Dr. Kevin Schulman
 Professor of Medicine, Duke School of Medicine Professor of Business Administration, Fuqua School of Business

Dr. Bruce Vladeck
 Professor of Health Policy and Geriatrics, Mount Sinai School of Medicine Former administrator, Health Care Financing Administration under President Clinton

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Aaron McKethan
mckethan@unc.edu
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