

Global studies face uphill battle Name change would bring returned mail

Coclanis says UNC has work to do

BY KATIE HOFFMANN
STAFF WRITER

While this week might be dedicated to celebrating the University's international endeavors, Peter Coclanis is quick to ensure that UNC is not simply resting on its laurels.

Coclanis, associate provost for international affairs, emphasized during a speech Monday night that the University still has a long way to go before it becomes a truly international institution.

"I don't want us to get too full of ourselves," he said. "Up to now, we've done the easy stuff in terms of internationalization."

Coclanis said that despite the University's accomplishments, UNC still is relatively unknown overseas.

"Our efforts up to now, however impressive, are hardly enough," he said. "Despite the fact that we're high in academic ranking, very few people internationally know where UNC actually is."

Coclanis said that because people now are living in an increasingly integrated global market, a university without strong international relations will be left in the dust.

"In a decade from now, I'm con-

vinced there will be no such thing as a great national university. It will have to be an international university or nothing."

To achieve international status, Coclanis said the University must become more attractive to foreign talents of all types — both student and faculty.

"If we don't get these talents, our competitors will," he said. "It will render us irrelevant as a competitor in the international arena."

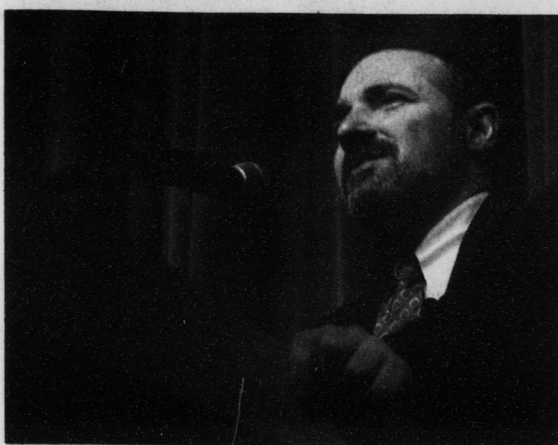
Coclanis said a major obstacle to attracting international talent is the limit of nonresident students to 18 percent of the student body.

"The longer we keep a cap like this, the longer we will not be considered an international university," he said.

Coclanis said that an increase in the percentage of out-of-state students would help the state by generating more tuition and increasing the chance that international students will accomplish great things in North Carolina.

He noted that this percentage constricts the University in ways that leading public competitors do not have to deal with.

"The Berkeleys, the Michigans, the Virginias, all have relaxed constraints," he said. "This is some-



DTH/PAT LAPADULA

Peter Coclanis, associate provost for international affairs, speaks Monday night at the Sonja B. Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History.

thing that makes it hard for us."

Coclanis also said the University must pursue funding financial aid programs and creating housing options for international students.

Members of the audience said Coclanis' speech rang true.

"I think he's right on target," said Robert Phay, director of World View, an international program for educators. "It's a challenge that has to be met at every level of the

community."

Other audience members said internationalization could help improve society.

"Carolina students are interested in internationalization, I hope, not only to get ahead economically, but to make a better world for us all," said Edward Curtis, professor of religious studies.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

UNC garners grant to study possible weapon

BY RACHEL BROCK
STAFF WRITER

In the middle of campus, a few UNC researchers are taking on a quest to find vaccines that might negate the effects of a hazardous biological attack.

The National Institutes of Health awarded a \$3.5 million research grant to Jeffrey Frelinger, chairman of UNC's Department of Microbiology and Immunology, to study Francisella tularensis, an infectious bacterium that could be used by terrorists.

Frelinger said the grant will fund a very broad spectrum of research geared toward painting a better

picture of the potential biological weapon.

"It's important to be able to work out parts of any pathogen to make vaccines and diagnosis," he said.

In the wrong hands, F. tularensis could present a very serious problem, Frelinger said.

"It has a lot of potential for bioterrorism," he said.

F. tularensis is mostly found in small animals, especially rodents, rabbits and hares — "rabbit fever" is the common name for the disease the bacteria causes in humans.

The bacteria is not transmitted between people, but results from contact with infected animals, from

flea and other insect bites, or from eating or drinking contaminated food or water.

Symptoms of "rabbit fever" include high fever, muscle aches and skin ulcers.

If terrorists decided to use the bacteria as a bioweapon, they most likely would employ an airborne strain, which would produce severe respiratory illness.

Tom Kawula, a professor in the microbiology and immunology department, also is involved in researching the bacteria. He said several higher-education institutes are participating in the study.

John Frelinger, Jeffrey Frelinger's brother, is contributing to the project from the University of Rochester by using robot technology.

While much of the research will

be conducted by UNC, screening will occur in laboratories at the University of Rochester, John Frelinger said.

"One thing I've seen with bio-defense work is many more collaborative efforts," Tawula said. "I think we're getting better and better at people combining their expertise."

The work will probably take several years to complete, Jeffrey Frelinger said.

Tawula also stressed the need for a sufficient amount of time to develop an effective vaccine.

"There is a misconception about making vaccinations," he said. "To make a good vaccine, you have to understand the disease."

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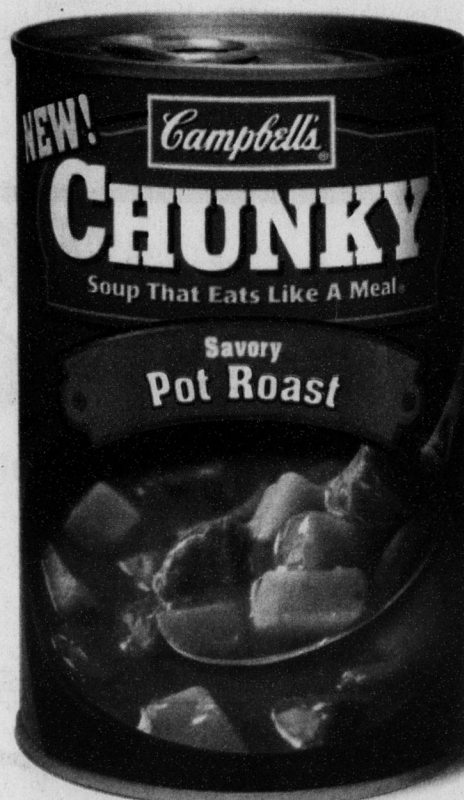
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Airport Rd. would be good for 1 year

BY CATHERINE SHAROKY
STAFF WRITER

Business owners and residents of Airport Road will have one year to make the transition from their current addresses to their new ones if the suggestion by the town's special committee to change the road's name to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard comes to fruition.

According to the policy of Chapel Hill post offices, mail addressed to Airport Road will be delivered to the old addresses for one year after the date of the official name change, said Kenneth Saraga, supervisor of customer services for the Chapel Hill post office on Estes Drive.

Mail then would be returned to sender for six months, stamped with the new address. A statement would be placed on pieces of mail asking citizens to notify correspondents of the address change, Saraga said.

After a year and a half, the mail would just be returned to sender without a notifying stamp.

"If (mail carriers) recognize the last names with the old addresses, we'll do our best to get the mail to the recipient, but officially it's one year," Saraga said.

The proposal to rename Airport Road in honor of King was first introduced by the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in January.

A special committee to consider this proposal met earlier this month and decided in favor of changing the name to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

The committee's recommendation to the Chapel Hill Town Council will include a suggestion that the road have two signs — one with the new road name and a second sign underneath reading "Historic Airport Road."

"I think that the committee members felt that this would serve the purpose of preserving the his-

tory of Airport Road while also reducing confusion by travelers who don't yet know about the road name change," said committee facilitator Gita Gulati-Pardee, president of OpenSource Leadership Strategies Inc.

Many of the residents and committee members who oppose the name change have based their concerns on historic or financial grounds.

Chip Foushee, owner of The UPS Store on Airport Road, said he does not expect that the cost of changing business cards, letterheads and signs will cause businesses any permanent financial harm as others have claimed that it would.

Instead, he said, his concerns stem from his belief that the town and the local chapter of the NAACP have not done enough to inquire about the feelings of business owners before going ahead with discussions.

And Bruce Johnson, a committee member and a business owner on Airport Road, estimated that changing the business cards and phone listings would cost his business \$17,700.

"The numbers of people that were or are going to be financially impacted are significantly larger than what was being stated initially," Foushee said. "I believe that it was deserving of that (research) process, because it is a significant move on the part of the town, and it does have an appreciable impact on a lot of people on that road."

Foushee also said his stance of opposition to the road change has been misinterpreted.

"(They) attempted to interpret it as if it was a statement specifically against naming it Martin Luther King highway," Foushee said. It was only a statement against any name change in general, he said.

Committee member and Airport Road business owner Stephen Largent said he was disappointed with the whole process.

"If the name gets changed, it will be without any representation of significance from the community," said Largent, calling the process "severely diseased."

"I support nothing that's been going on in terms of the final outcome," he said.

The draft of the committee's recommendation will be presented Saturday at its next meeting.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

County provides flu shots

High-risk people can be vaccinated

BY LIZ STANLEY
STAFF WRITER

The Orange County Health Department now is providing high-risk individuals with an opportunity to receive the influenza vaccination this week by appointment only.

Flu clinics will be held Wednesday and Thursday at the department's Hillsborough and Chapel Hill offices.

Wayne Sherman, personal health services director for the department, said some appointments still are available.

Sherman said only people who meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's high-risk criteria are eligible to receive the vaccination.

These criteria include children 6 months to 23 months, individuals 65 years of age and older, individuals 2 to 64 years of age with a chronic illness, women who will be pregnant during the flu season, individuals living in nursing homes or other chronic-care facilities, children 6 months to 18 years who are on daily aspirin therapy, health care workers and individuals who have or take care of a baby under 6 months of age.

By next week, the department expects to receive more of the vaccine and will distribute a majority of it to local practices, Sherman said.

Appointments can be made from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through today by calling 245-2478 or 245-2474.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.