

# The Daily Tar Heel

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**BREAKING NEWS**

## December commencement speaker revealed

It was discovered Tuesday that the fall Commencement speaker will be Etta Pisano, a radiology and biomedical engineering professor at UNC. Pisano also is director the University's Biomedical Research Imaging Center. She recently received national attention for her work in breast cancer research.



**ETTA PISANO** recently authored an article on digital mammography

For the full story read Thursday's edition of the Daily Tar Heel.

# BROWN PASSES BUCK

FORMER FEMA DIRECTOR BLAMES LOUISIANA OFFICIALS

## HURRICANE RELIEF: HOW TO HELP

**BY SETH PEAVEY**  
STAFF WRITER

Michael Brown, the former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency who resigned in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, shifted blame to local and state officials while testifying before a Congressional panel Tuesday.

He told the Republican-led special House Committee that he made two mistakes in responding to the storm: not setting up a system of media briefings and being unable to persuade La. Governor Kathleen Blanco and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin to coordinate their responses.

"We were prepared but overwhelmed," Brown said.

He also said his biggest mistake was failing to realize soon enough that Louisiana was "dysfunctional."

Citing the need for an independent commission and questioning the loyalties of congressional Republicans running Tuesday's hearing, the Democratic leadership refused to name any members to the committee.

"Michael Brown's appearance before the sham committee proves that Republicans are adept at staging photo opportunities, not meaningful and rigorous oversight of the Bush administration," said House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., in a press release.

Not all Democrats, however, boycotted the hearings. Reps. William Jefferson,

D-La., and Gene Taylor, D-Miss., both showed up Tuesday to question Brown.

Lawmakers from both parties asked Brown tough questions about FEMA's logistical and communication failures, while the two Democrats disputed Brown's claims that state and local officials primarily were to blame.

The Republican-dominated committee is markedly different from the independent bipartisan commission established following Sept. 11.

Democrats had called for a similar commission to be established after Hurricane Katrina.

"A Republican committee will go out

The Red Cross seeks volunteers and donations. E-mail oochapne@intrex.net for more info.

Supplies fundraiser  
The DTH is collecting new socks and underwear for victims in areas affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita; bring them to the dropbox in our office, in Union Suite 2409.

SEE HEARING, PAGE 4

## Tuition talks to involve students

**BY BRIAN HUDSON**  
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

As the Tuition Advisory Task Force moves closer to drafting a proposal for a campus-based tuition increase, Student Body President Seth Dearmin has taken steps to directly involve his constituents in the process.

Student leaders will host a forum at 8 p.m. Thursday in Murphey 116 in an effort to gauge the student body's opinions on tuition.

Dearmin, who co-chairs the tuition task force, said he hopes the forum will familiarize students with the progress made thus far in tuition talks.

"More or less there's a huge disconnect between what members of the task force have and what your average students get to see," he said.

During the last three meetings task force members have overwhelmingly agreed that the campus is in need of the revenue a tuition increase would bring.

Dearmin said he will relay that sentiment to students — that tuition increases might be necessary to maintain UNC's academic excellence.

But he acknowledged that he faces a potential conflict if an overwhelming number of students speak out against any campus-based tuition increases.

As a representative of the student voice, he said he must reflect student opinions.

But he added that he also is

SEE TUITION, PAGE 4

## STICKING TOGETHER



DTH/SCARLETT MILLER

Mulberry Silks and Fine Fabrics, a locally owned store in Carrboro, works to retain a loyal clientele by offering sewing classes and encouraging a lively communal atmosphere. Here, Nancy Quaintance (back left) looks on as Maggie Simmons (front left) mea-

sures fabric with co-owner Cathy Heaton (front center). Nancy Jackson (back right) and Peggy Abrams also discuss fabric needs. The area chamber of commerce wants to help small stores such as Mulberry through its "buy local" campaign. Visit dailytarheel.com for the full story.

## Locals combat military pitches

**BY PAUL KIERNAN**  
STAFF WRITER

A clause in the No Child Left Behind Act requiring high schools to give military recruiters access to students' contact information has brought little change to the way N.C. school systems interact with recruiters.

But in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, the provision has some parents worried.

The information, which most schools have provided to recruiters and colleges for years, includes a student's name, address and phone number. Parents may contact their child's school if they do not want the information disclosed.

SEE RECRUITMENT, PAGE 4

## Campus takes baby steps

### Officials start to address diversity

**BY ERIN ZUREICK**  
STAFF WRITER

Almost a year after a task force met to assess the state of diversity at UNC, University officials are taking steps to create a campus-wide diversity plan.

Officials charged with overseeing the changes say they are gradually taking steps to implement recommendations issued

last spring by the Chancellor's Task Force on Diversity.

Recommendations included setting a clearer definition of diversity, promoting educational opportunities and recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty and student body.

An ad hoc committee will meet soon to begin to refine priorities, said Archie Ervin, associate provost of the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs who served as chairman of the task force.

"For each of the priorities identified, we'll ask this committee of faculty and staff to develop

goals," Ervin said.

He said he hopes the committee will conclude its work by the end of the fall semester.

Once completed, a proposal will outline a system for monitoring and reporting the state of diversity at UNC on a yearly basis.

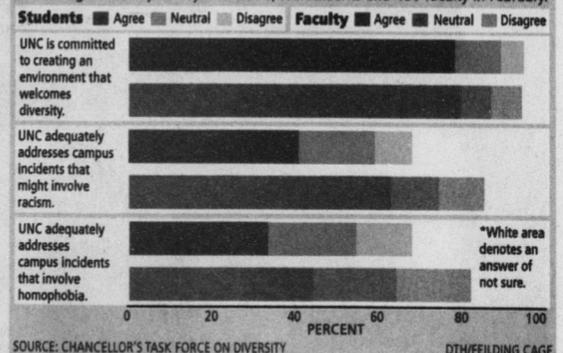
And student leaders say they are eagerly awaiting the much-needed reform.

"I still see certain cliques," said Emery Chen, president of the Asian Students Association.

SEE DIVERSITY, PAGE 4

### UNC diversity assessment

University officials are taking steps to create a campuswide diversity plan after conducting a diversity survey of about 1,400 students and 400 faculty in February.

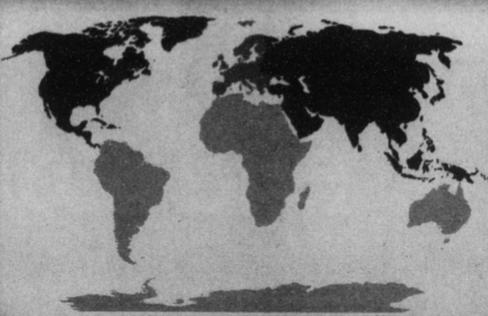


## International TAs navigate the language barrier

In 2004 UNC had 968 international graduate students with most coming from Asia. Students in classes taught by TAs that do not speak fluent English say that this creates a communication barrier that hinders the educational process.

Top countries of origin	
<b>North America</b>	
Canada	60
Mexico	22
<b>Europe</b>	
France	35
Germany	50
Turkey	22
United Kingdom	46
<b>Asia</b>	
China	241
India	81
Japan	67
Korea	100
Russia	33

SOURCE: HTTP://DISSS.UNC.EDU



Top areas of specialization	
450	Health Sciences
259	Biological and Life Sciences
80	Physical Sciences
31	Business and Management
31	Social Sciences and History
26	Mathematics
24	Computer Sciences

DTH/FELDING CAGE

## Lessons often lost in translation

### Students can't always understand TAs

**BY ADAM RODMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

Senior chemistry major Bryan Corey learned about international communication the hard way in one of his upper-level math classes.

His professor, an Asian graduate student, had some communication issues, to say the least.

"She had no concept of the English language," Corey says.

Corey managed to get a B, though he says he thinks he would have scored higher if some ideas

could have been explained better.

"She was very intelligent, but it's hard to teach when you don't speak the native language," he says.

The number of international graduate students at UNC has been growing recently, and campus officials have started taking steps to ensure experiences like Corey's disappear.

Seventeen percent of America's 1.4 million graduate students are from other countries. In fields like engineering, they make up

more than 50 percent of enrollment, according to the Council of Graduate Schools.

In 2004, there were 968 international graduate students at UNC with 1,331 international students total, up from 1,047 the year before, with most coming from South and East Asia.

"Every international TA or faculty member is aware of the fact that it's difficult to communicate without their native tongue," says Ed Neal, the director of faculty development at the Center for

SEE UNCLEAR, PAGE 4

online | dailytarheel.com

**MORE THAN A SIMPLE CASE WHO** official warns of a rise in avian flu cases

**ONE BIG DONATION** The School of Public Health presents \$12,670 for relief

**MA, LOOK WHAT I GOT** Annual N.C. report card friendly toward early education

campus | page 2

### I CAN'T ACCEPT

The University task force on donor regulation, formed in response to a contentious gift for Western culture studies, meets for the first time.

city | page 5

### WOONG VOTERS

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education candidates are grilled by area voters on perennial issues such as the minority achievement gap.



sports | page 8

### ONWARD AND UPWARD

While the defense only allowed 13 yards to N.C. State last weekend, UNC will see a different type of offense in Utah this Saturday.

weather

Mostly Sunny  
H 83, L 62

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