

# Students bring world home UNC, Duke host mock trial invite

BY DAVID GILMORE  
STAFF WRITER

More than 10 years and 100,000 K-12 presentations after its founding, the Carolina Navigators program is still thriving.

The free program gives University students the chance to present their personal study abroad accounts in K-12 classrooms around the state.

And in the past five years, the program has more than doubled the number of presentations students have given. In the 2002-03 academic year, students gave 213 presentations, and last year that number rose to 523.

"For many North Carolina students who have never been really outside of North Carolina, it's really exciting to hear about the world outside of our state — to better understand the world we live in," said Tara Muller, program coordi-

nator for Carolina Navigators.

More than 70 UNC students spoke with 15,154 elementary, middle and high school students through the program in the 2006-07 academic year.

UNC students who have lived or studied abroad can participate in the program, which sends them to different N.C. schools to discuss their stories about other countries.

Interested students must attend a mandatory training session. The next session will be held in January.

For many UNC students, the program provides an opportunity to delve more deeply into their international experiences.

"They get really excited to see a college student coming to spend time with them and teach them about another country," said Eleanor deGolian, a junior who attended the UNC Honors Program in Rome last summer.

In the 2006-07 academic year, students volunteered at 83 different schools in 14 counties.

"When students return from studying abroad, their roommates usually give them about 90 seconds to wrap it up," Muller said. "Carolina Navigators allows study abroad students to share their experiences with a captive audience who are eager to learn more."

Muller also teaches a service-learning class that uses the program, and UNC students also can get service hours through Carolina Navigators.

And K-12 teachers say the program is a good supplement to their classes.

"It's a very, very effective resource," said Robin McMahon, a French teacher at Chapel Hill's Smith Middle School, who frequently uses the program.

All teachers can apply for the

program, though it has a focus on schools in lower income areas, such as Alamance County's B.E. Jordan Elementary School. Last academic year, 47 percent of the presentations were made at schools in such counties.

"It creates global awareness, especially among students who may not have the means to go by themselves," deGolian said.

The program, which has run since 1996, exemplifies Chancellor James Moeser's goal of making UNC more global while simultaneously reminding itself of its commitment to the state.

"This is a great opportunity to engage both the University students and the outside community in learning about the world," Muller said.

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

BY ALLISON MILLER  
SENIOR WRITER

They hold practices, have scrimmages and attend competitions to test their skills against other teams.

But these university students are lawyers-in-training, not athletes.

This weekend, 38 mock trial teams from colleges across the country came to UNC's and Duke's campuses for the second annual Tobacco Road Invitational.

This year the invitational was the largest in the country, said Duke senior Megan Woodford, vice president of Duke's team.

The tournament gave each team a chance to practice before regional and national competitions that take place next semester, tournament coordinator Christine Fang said.

Fang also said she wants to make sure the Tobacco Road Invitational remains "a staple on the mock trial circuit."

During four rounds of competition on Friday and Saturday, the teams were pitted against each other to present the prosecution and defense sides of a predetermined trial.

This year's trial involved a woman who stabbed a social worker with an HIV-infected needle.

For a Friday trial between Ohio State and Wake Forest universities, tables and chairs were set up to make the Class of 2000 Lounge in the Student Union look like a courtroom.

Students acting as lawyers, clad in black suits, took turns questioning students acting out witness parts, such as the defendant's brother and psychologist.

About 100 local attorneys, judges and law professors judged the trials based on students' presentation of the case.

Furman University won the competition with a perfect score.

Zac Corrigan, a Furman University senior, said his team practices every day for a couple of hours.

"For a lot of us, it's our most time-consuming extracurricular," he said. "But it's a lot of fun."

Each team that participated in the invitational paid a \$100 fee. Proceeds from the event were distributed equally between UNC's and Duke's mock trial teams.



DTH/ANTHONY HARRIS  
UNC's Nick Butler and University of Richmond's CJ Pisano examine a document at mock trial's Tobacco Road Invitational on Friday.

"It's a major fundraiser for us," Fang said.

The competition was funded by a \$2,000 contribution from the Robertson Scholars Program and \$2,000 from the Princeton Review.

The University of Southern California was one of several West Coast teams at the competition.

USC junior and team member Christine Sihm said the team sometimes travels long distances to competitions to get more practice.

USC placed third behind George Washington University.

Carolina Mock Trial had two teams participate in the competition. Duke had one team, and some students were part of a joint UNC and Duke team.

Though none of UNC's or Duke's teams placed in the top seven, judges' comments were generally positive, said senior Palmer Heenan, Carolina Mock Trial president.

Heenan said that all of UNC's senior team members helped organize and run the tournament, leaving teams composed primarily of freshmen to compete.

"I was extremely pleased with the results," he said.

Contact the Features Editor at [features@unc.edu](mailto:features@unc.edu).

# Play depicts passion of death penalty

BY SARA WISE  
STAFF WRITER

The Tony Award-winning "Parade" confronts controversy directly by exploring topics including the death penalty and lynching.

"While these themes may be foreign to the musical form, there are so many uplifting moments, even some comic moments, so the whole thing is really a journey," said Joseph Megel, director of "Parade," which opens today in Memorial Hall.

The musical, which runs until Tuesday, is produced as part of the Carolina Performing Arts series' "Criminal/Justice: The Death Penalty Examined," in conjunction with the departments of music and communication studies.

"Parade" depicts the true story of Leo Frank, a Jewish man who is tried and convicted of the rape and murder of a young girl in Atlanta during the early 1900s.

Although Frank is sentenced to death, the governor commutes his sentence. As a result, the townspeople decide to take justice into their own hands.

"It shows that the death penalty is too associated with passion and too little associated with justice," said sophomore Yorick de Visser,

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Location: Memorial Hall  
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an ensemble member in the show. Although the death penalty is an important theme in "Parade," Megel said that it also touches on wider themes.

"One important strain in the music is the culture of the South," Megel said, "of the Confederate culture and the pride of that culture."

Music director Terry Rhodes said an important aspect of the musical is the exploration of the growing relationship between Frank and his wife.

"It's a love story bound up in the tragedy of what was happening at that time," Rhodes said.

As a result the music has an emotionally uplifting quality that is not completely overshadowed by the more serious themes of the play, Megel said.

"The music shows a real range of genres," Rhodes said. "We have everything from cakewalks to the blues. It's a real interesting mix of genres, and it captures the spirit of the time."

Although the music fits in well with the show's time period, Megel



DTH/SAM WARD

The musical "Parade" explores the death penalty through the story of Leo Frank, a Jewish man who was killed in Marietta, Ga., in 1915.

just as relevant now as it was in the early 1900s, Megel said.

"Some people think we're beyond a culture that lynched a particular group of people, but we still see seeds of discontent and anger and racism," he said.

"It continues to be very uncomfortable to confront these issues, but this story can lead to thinking about that confrontation."

Contact the Arts Editor at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu)

And "Parade's" message is still

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EACH DAY IS DIFFERENT.  
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