

# Tsong to play Carnegie Hall

Faculty member also plans two CDs

BY JENNIFER L. DURHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Mayron Tsong, the UNC music department's area head of piano, began playing when she was only six years old. Her father worked on pianos and, at times, had as many as 40 in the Tsong household.

"We all played," Tsong said. "I just fell into it naturally. We had no shortage of pianos and never an excuse not to practice."

Tsong has come a long way from playing the two pianos that she had in her bedroom as a child. At the end of this month, she will grace the stage at Carnegie Hall.

"It's an amazing event," Tsong said. "It's a major benchmark in one's career. It's a venue that is recognized worldwide. It's very exciting."

Her performance, which is scheduled for May 30 at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, will feature works by Ravel, Haydn, Prokofiev, Coultard, Rachmaninoff and Scriabin.

"It is fantastic," said Tim Carter, chair of the music department. Carter also said that Carnegie Hall is one of the highest honors that any musician can achieve.

Carter said he couldn't recall any other UNC faculty to have played at Carnegie Hall in recent years.

Such an honor has been a long time coming for Tsong, who graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto when she was only 16 years old.

Tsong was one of the youngest musicians ever to receive a Performer's Diploma in Piano from the institution.

She holds graduate degrees in Piano Performance and Music Theory, and was also a three-time recipient of The Female Doctoral Students Grant.

In addition to her numerous accomplishments, Tsong said that she also learned a great deal in her time teaching.

"I have learned a lot through my students," she said. "Everyone is different; everyone expresses themselves differently. I find that really rewarding for me, especially with the level of students at UNC."

Tsong also plans to release her first solo recording, a compilation of her performances of three Russian composers, on Centaur Records, later this year.

"Throughout most of my life, Russian repertoires have been my favorite," Tsong said. "It's a tribute to a time when I was 12, and one particular composer, Rachmaninoff,



Mayron Tsong, professor and head of the UNC music department's piano area, practices her performance in an empty Memorial Hall.

when I really started to feel natural at the keyboard.

"A light went on and I realized it was something I wanted to do for the rest of my life," she said.

This is also an important opportunity for the University and the music department.

"It's a great accomplishment ... when one of our brightest faculty gets recognized," Carter said.

While Tsong has studied and performed in European venues in Switzerland, Sweden and Germany,

she noted that she also hopes to someday work in England.

She plans to release a second CD and is hopeful for yet another chance to play at Carnegie Hall.

"There's something very special about (the moment) when a person finds that thing that they are meant to do," she said. "You feel completely natural. That for me is the biggest addition."

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

# Two pedestrian deaths highlight safety concerns

UNC working to curb incidents

BY KATHERINE DEMBY  
STAFF WRITER

The May 15 pedestrian death of foreign exchange student Lisa Moran at the intersection of Manning Drive and South Columbia Street was not the only of its kind in Chapel Hill history.

Nor was it the only of its kind in the past week.

Three days after Moran's death, 38-year-old Barbara Boone Sims, a homeless woman of Chapel Hill, was struck and killed at the corner of Weaver Dairy Road and Perkins Drive.

And in January 2006, five pedestrian accidents occurred in the area, two of which were fatal.

The state Department of Transportation said it plans to investigate last week's accidents, but the number of pedestrian fatalities that continue to occur in the area have raised concerns among citizens about everyday pedestrian safety.

DOT spokesman Steve Abbott said the DOT investigates traffic accidents such as Moran's to assess the need for safety improvements.

"We try to be proactive with pedestrians and bicyclists," he said.

Abbott said that the DOT meets on a quarterly basis with Chapel Hill and Carrboro engineering staffs and that in the past few years, the division has allocated between \$200,000 and \$300,000 to increase pedestrian safety and awareness.

"I'd like to sit down with (the town of) Chapel Hill and see if we can do something to improve safety," Abbott said.

And the DOT is not the only organization that deals with pedestrian well-being.

The University's Department of Public Safety also works with the University's Highway Safety Research Center to increase pedestrian safety around campus.

DPS spokesman Randy Young

*"I'd like to sit down with Chapel Hill and see if we can do something to improve safety"*

STEVE ABBOTT, DOT SPOKESMAN

said \$135 jaywalking citations have "certainly raised awareness."

But citations are issued only to those pedestrians who impede traffic flow by jaywalking.

Young said that the department also doles out speeding tickets, since speeding in areas with crosswalks can have an impact on pedestrian safety.

He said that DPS works with incoming freshmen during CTOPS but that pedestrian safety is an issue that "still has to be confronted."

Representatives from both DPS and the HSRC said the Yield to Heels program also is an important tool in increasing pedestrian safety.

HSRC Public Relations Coordinator Jennifer Bonchak said the program is in its eighth year and occurs once every semester.

Campus police officers and student volunteer hand out safety information to students at four major crosswalks: South Road in front of the Student Recreation Center and in front of the Bell Tower; at the Fraternity Court crossing of South Columbia Street; and at the crosswalk at Manning Drive and South Columbia Street, near where Moran was hit.

Bonchak said the Yield to Heels program focuses on three principles.

"Be safe. Be aware. Be courteous," she said.

She said that pedestrian safety is a mutual effort and that awareness is an important tool for preventing accidents.

"Pedestrians, as well as motorists, should try to adhere to the three principles."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Student leaders fight admission ban

Targets state's illegal immigrants

BY ASHLEY BENNETT  
STAFF WRITER

Though illegal immigrants have been rejected from the N.C. Community College System for now, student leaders are set to fight the decision.

After the N.C. Community College System announced its May 13 decision to prohibit all illegal or undocumented immigrants from entering college degree programs, the Coalition for College Access and the Association of Student Governments have begun planning to co-sponsor a resolution against the policy, Student Body President J.J. Raynor said.

Greg Doucette, N.C. State student senate president, said he would like to have the Coalition for College Access draft the resolution for review at the Aug. 1 ASG business meeting.

"If it is adopted then it will definitely be forwarded to the Community College System as the opinion of the UNC system," Doucette said.

The Coalition for College Access has also been taking their own initiatives, including a petition that stated the group's opposition to the policy, said Kristin Economo, co-founder of the organization.

"We feel that education is a positive thing for North Carolina and we should extend that to as many students as possible because it can only help our communities," she said.

Economo said that since April, when the petition was posted online, over 2,500 people have signed it. She said the group is now trying to figure out how to best use the support from their petition.

The Coalition lobbied against the policy at the state capitol building in Raleigh last weekend and plans to do it again later in the summer with other advocates, such as El Pueblo and Student Action with Farmworkers, two area nonprofit organizations.

Joni Worthington, UNC Vice President for Communications, declined to speculate on the impact of a permanent ban on illegal

*"We feel that education is a positive thing for North Carolina and we should extend that to as many students as possible..."*

KRISTIN ECONOMO, CO-FOUNDER, THE COALITION FOR COLLEGE ACCESS

immigrants from community colleges, stressing that the policy is only a temporary stance until the Attorney General's Office receives further federal clarification.

But Worthington said that the ultimate decision would be based on the final opinion of the Attorney General. She also said that the position of both the university and community college systems would be based on his findings.

Both Raynor and Doucette argued that the ban will affect not only illegal immigrants, but the entire N.C. community, including other students in community col-

leges.

Raynor said the policy will be bad for the community because it deprives hard-working students of the benefits of their education.

"They're basically saying to students who have worked their way, despite incredible odds, to graduate with a high school degree and qualify for community college that ... all of that investment of North Carolina's resources into that student was for nothing."

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

CHAPEL HILL'S PREMIER CONSIGNMENT BOUTIQUE

## THE STOCK EXCHANGE

New Arrivals Daily

- 7 for all mankind
- Lilly Pulitzer
- Kate Spade
- Michael Stars
- and much much more...

FalconBridge Shopping Center  
across from Ecko Furniture  
exit 273 on I-40 (near Mardi Gras)  
919.403.9977

Open everyday except Monday  
Tuesday - Friday 10am - 7pm  
Saturday 10am - 5pm • Sunday 12pm - 5pm

## STUDIO 91

fine art gallery & wine lounge

"Where Fine Art & Fine Wine Meet"

TUESDAY 5-10pm  
Tuesday Tastings,  
5 wines for \$15

WEDNESDAY 5-10pm  
"Girls Night Out"  
Complimentary gourmet  
chocolate truffle

THURSDAY 5-10pm  
Thursday Night Flights,  
choose 3 wines from a  
list for \$12

FRIDAY 5-7pm  
T.G.I.F. Complimentary  
hors d'oeuvres

SATURDAY 5-12am  
Date Night!!

Find us just 1 1/2 miles from campus in the quaint village of Meadowmont off Hwy 54  
919.933.3700  
606 Meadowmont Village Circle • Chapel Hill, NC 27517  
[www.studio91fineart.com](http://www.studio91fineart.com)

## Chill on the Hill!

Downtown Chapel Hill  
942 PLUMP  
106 W. Franklin St.  
(Corner to Heel's N&H Hwy)  
[www.yogurtpump.com](http://www.yogurtpump.com)

the YOGURT pump

Mon-Sat 11:30am-11:30pm  
Sun 12pm-11:30pm

2065 Wines

702 Teas

263 Cooking Classes

1 Amazing Destination

University Mall  
201 S. Estes Dr.  
Chapel Hill  
919.929.7133  
[southernseason.com](http://southernseason.com)

A Southern Season

AVEDA INSTITUTE  
CHAPEL HILL

## connect with aveda.

AVEDA

Hair  
Receive a haircut for \$15\*

Spa  
Receive \$5 off any facial or body treatment\*

Nails  
Receive \$5 off a spa pedicure\*

\*Present coupon at time of purchase. Not valid with other offers. Expires June 30, 2008. Valid on Wednesday and Thursday appointments. Code: DTH.QS2.08

200 W. Franklin St | 919.960.4769 | [www.avedachapelhill.com](http://www.avedachapelhill.com)

## PAPA JOHN'S

Better Ingredients.  
Better Pizza.

#1 in Customer Satisfaction!

1 LARGE PIZZA UP TO THREE TOPPINGS \$11.99

Accepts UNCCard

HOURS  
Mon-Wed 10am-2am  
Thurs-Sat 10am-3am  
Sunday 11am-1am

Papa John's Pizza  
607-B W. Franklin St.  
932-7575  
Order Pizza Online!  
[www.papajohns.com](http://www.papajohns.com)

---

PAPA JOHN'S SPRING DEAL

RUSTIC ITALIAN MEAT PIZZA \$11.99 + tax

PAPA JOHN'S TARHEEL SPECIAL

2 LARGE 1 Topping PIZZAS \$17.99 + tax

Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations. Customer pays all applicable sales tax. Additional toppings extra. Limit 1 per order. Expires 5/23/08