

**ADVISING**

FROM PAGE 1

mary adviser to work with throughout their college careers.

The name will never change unless students switch to majors outside their divisions or have conflicts with their advisers.

Some academic advisers said they hope that students will feel more connected when directly paired with an adviser.

"You'd be surprised by the kinds of things that students share with us if they feel connected," said senior adviser Andrea Caldwell, adding that it's important to make sure students are "not just a PID number."

**Involve the departments**

Another change still in the works is requiring greater involvement from academic departments in advising students.

Exactly how each department will do that is unclear.

In the next few years, students ideally will go to faculty in their department for major-related questions, such as what a certain class is like or for professor recommendations, Cannon said.

They'll return to Steele Building advising for information about graduation requirements and the like, Cannon said.

Although the reviewers recommended a complete swap from academic advising to departmental advising after sophomore year, the department opted to use both.

"The more that we can blur the lines and really work collaboratively with our departments only helps our students," Caldwell said.

UNC plans to hire six faculty members who will split their time lecturing and coordinating advising for their departments. They will be placed in the six largest departments in fall 2009, with more probably hired later, Cannon said.

The academic advising implementation committee will soon ask the departments to submit plans for how they'll handle advising, said Stephen Weiss, committee chairman and computer science professor.

He added that some departments, including chemistry and psychology, already have strong departmental advising systems.

In the psychology department, which graduates about 400 stu-

*"It will never be perfect because after all, we are human."*

**CAROLYN CANNON**, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF ACADEMIC ADVISING PROGRAMS

dents each year, about six faculty advisers are available through office hours and by appointment, professor Beth Kurtz-Costes said.

The department also holds regular sessions about specific topics and spreads information through its Web site, e-mail and a psychology club.

Plans for how each department will advise students are due in April, according to documents from the May 2008 Board of Trustees meeting.

**'It will never be perfect'**

With some changes completed and more still to come, students and advisers can begin to weigh the benefits with the costs.

Although Cannon said she wasn't sure how much the changes would cost, she said the money is there from the College of Arts and Sciences for the restructure.

She added that the advising department's budget exceeds \$2 million a year.

Cannon said advisers hope that the investment will pay off in more satisfied students and happier staff.

Hearing negative comments from students had worn on some advisers, she said.

"It had just gotten to the point where some advisers really started becoming bitter," Cannon said. "It is a real challenge to keep highly motivated, quality advisers engaged when they sometimes believe that they're not fully appreciated."

And if this year's overhaul doesn't improve academic advising, more changes can always be made, she said.

"This is not a process where we're going to try to develop a restructured system in one year and think that the system is perfect," Cannon said. "We will continue to restructure and revise."

"It will never be perfect because, after all, we are human."

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

**Other advising changes**

**Online degree audit system**

A new online degree audit system should be in place by fall 2010, reducing the need for paper work sheets, which the external reviewers' report stated were "so 20th century."

**New technology position**

A full-time staff member, Angela Coley, began working in July to update the advising Web site and make more content available online.

**Revamp mission statement**

Academic Advising has developed a comprehensive mission statement that includes advisers' and students' responsibilities. The statement says that students have "final responsibility" for graduation requirements.

**Advising program council**

An academic advising program council has been created that can take on assignments or create its own agenda.

**Professional development**

The reviewers recommended that advisers have more opportunities for professional development, such as conferences with the National Academic Advising Association. Advisers have been told that UNC will foot the bill if they present at conferences, said Carolyn Cannon, associate dean of academic advising programs.

**Reinforce advisers' impact**

The external review also recommended that academic advisers work to better understand and assess how their work affects students.

**Eliminate part-time staff**

The only recommendation academic advising will not take is to send part-time assistant deans and part-time faculty advisers back to their departments.

"We don't have enough advisers to advise students without them," Cannon said. "They bring a different kind of knowledge to this department that we wouldn't have otherwise."



DTH/LAUREN COWART

Lizzie Cato, 17, from Raleigh, leads her dog, Abbie, over the bar in the high jump competition for dogs lighter than 50 pounds. The event was held to raise money for the College of Veterinary Medicine at N.C. State University.

**DOG OLYMPICS**

FROM PAGE 1

of owner and pet.

Some folks at the event turned out to simply enjoy the atmosphere and socialize their dogs.

"We're just enjoying the dog-rodierie," said Janice Sondys of Clayton, who attended the event with her 11-year-old dog, Launch Pad.

Nash, a black lab, took home first place in the wiener toss, catching a bit of hotdog that his owner Whitney Weeks, a second-year veterinary student and event volunteer, threw from across the ring.

"He likes to catch anything in his mouth and we took advantage of that," Weeks said.

For some of the nonathletic dogs, there was also the howling contest.

Dave Crumb's dog, a Bichon

Frise named Clyde, took top honors.

"He's been practicing," Crumb said. "I didn't know that he would be able to use his skills for anything other than being annoying."

The Frisbee star of the games was Bo from Raleigh with his owner Mike Murphy. Bo took first place in both the Frisbee for style and Frisbee for distance contests.

"We've been coming for six years," Murphy said. "We look for-

ward to coming out. Frisbee's his thing."

Bo managed to catch two Frisbees while fully in the air, earning extra style points for having his paws off the ground.

He missed his final toss, however, and slipped under the fence to visit with other spectator dogs.

"I think he got distracted at the end by the girls," Murphy said.

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

**Get a head start in the game of life**

**ON THE CAREER PATH**

The Daily Tar Heel  
A Daily Tar Heel supplement for the 2008 Fall Career Expo and the Diversity Career Fair  
Tuesday, September 16



**ECLIPSE TANNING SALON**

- Day Spa Atmosphere
- Brand New Ultra High Pressure Beds
- Medium Pressure Bed and Booths
- Customized Sunless Airbrush Tanning
- Open 7 Days a Week
- UNC Students show your UNC ID for a discount

**New Clients Only**  
**3 TANS for \$10.00**  
Cannot be combined with other offers.

**September Special**  
**Buy 10 Visits... Get 3 FREE!**  
Not valid with any other offers. Expires 9/30/08

**Sunless Tan**  
**\$5.00 OFF Airbrush Tanning**  
Cannot be combined with other offers.

DESIGNER SKIN

105 A Rams Plaza • 968-3377

**Carolina Sports Menu**

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 19**  
**FIELD HOCKEY vs. Old Dominion**  
**at 6:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 20**  
**SWIMMING & DIVING Alumni Meet\***

**FOOTBALL vs. Virginia Tech\***  
**\*Times TBA**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 21**  
**FIELD HOCKEY vs. Radford**  
**at 1:00 PM**

**"Caution Dip Ahead"**  
**Try different dips at dinner in Top of Lenoir and Rams Head on Wednesday, September 17th**

**carolina DINING SERVICES**

**CALL FOR ENTRIES**

**9TH ANNUAL CENTER FOR GLOBAL INITIATIVES INTERNATIONAL PHOTO COMPETITION**

WINNERS WILL BE FEATURED IN AN EXHIBIT DURING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK AND MAY BE FEATURED IN THE 2009 CGI CALENDAR

ENTER ONLINE AT [GLI.UNC.EDU](http://GLI.UNC.EDU)

**WIN With 2**

**YIELD**

Enter to win a custom Carolina Timbuk2 messenger bag packed full of great prizes!

**Wednesday, September 17**  
**9am-2pm**

Look for Y2H volunteers across campus and visit the Y2H table in the Pit from 12-2pm and register to win!

Yield 2 Heels is a pedestrian safety awareness campaign coordinated by UNC Highway Safety Research Center, UNC Dept. of Public Safety and Alpha Phi Omega.