New statewide mandatory spending restrictions have been put in place to balance the state budget this fiscal year, which ends June 30. No state funds can be spent to hire new employees, provide salary increases, purchase goods and services, or travel.

Gov. Beverly Perdue directed the Office of State Budget and Management to issue the restrictions.

“Allotments will only be approved for mandatory obligations, including payroll, utilities, financial aid, required state aid and debt service,” State Budget Director Charles Perusse said in his April 9 memo to department heads statewide.

The spending freeze on all state funds, including state receipts, was announced last week by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Bernadette Gray-Little and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Richard Mann in a memo to Carolina’s vice chancellors and deans. The freeze is effective retroactive to April 9.

There are some narrow hiring exceptions, however.

Still permitted under the normal approval processes are the hiring of faculty positions directly related to classroom instruction, the hiring of positions paid entirely from non-state resources and the hiring of public safety officers or health-care positions providing direct care to patients.

Other vacant EPA and SPA positions funded all or in part by state funds have been frozen, and new positions funded fully or partially with state funds may not be created.

Perusse’s memo and emergency budget guidelines for the University community outlining these restrictions and others related to purchase and travel have been posted on the Carolina Budget Information Web site, universityrelations.unc.edu/budget. Look under “Recent Budget Communications.”

Top, Kevin Owen rings up Carolina championship merchandise at Student Stores. Large crowds of shoppers packed the store after the Tar Heels clinched the NCAA basketball championship on April 6. Student Stores’ earnings go solely to support student scholarships and through the years have generated more than $20 million for non-athletic scholarships. Bottom, senior Danny Green (right) dances for the cheering crowd of thousands who had gathered in the Dean E. Smith Center on April 7 to welcome home the team. To see photos commemorating the championship, refer to gazette.unc.edu/online-only.html.
Protest raises free speech issues

The unfettered clash of competing ideas has always been a core part of the Carolina culture.

The student protestors whose actions last week silenced the views of former U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo acted outside of that cherished tradition of openness and free expression, Chancellor Holden Thorp said.

In an April 15 campuswide e-mail, Thorp expressed his regret that the protest got so out of hand that Tancredo felt threatened enough to leave before he could speak.

Tancredo is a five-term Republican congressman from Colorado who ran for president in 2008 with the slogan: “Secure the borders. Deport those who don’t belong. Make sure they never come back.”

The Carolina student chapter of Youth for Western Civilization, a national organization of students who oppose mass immigration, multiculturalism and affirmative action invited Tancredo to share his hard-line stance on immigration and tuition.

“We expect protests about controversial subjects at Carolina,” Thorp said. “That’s part of our culture. But we also pride ourselves on being a place where all points of view are expressed and heard.”

Groups in the past have displayed signs or banners that silently expressed their opinions while a speaker had his or her say, Thorp said. “That didn’t happen last night.”

The April 14 incident took place after students filled the Bingham Hall auditorium to capacity and others had crowded into the hall but were blocked from entering the auditorium by campus safety officers. Some students yelled chants that called Tancredo a “racist” and “white supremacist.”

Tancredo spoke for several minutes before a group of students displayed a banner reading “no dialogue with hate” in front of his face. Tancredo left seconds later after a window pane was broken.

The investigation report said 200 students milled outside Bingham Hall as the building was cleared.

Thorp said he called Tancredo the day after the incident to apologize. Also, the Department of Public Safety is investigating the incident to determine if any students involved in the protest should face Honor Court proceedings.

The unfettered clash of competing ideas has always been a core part of the Carolina culture. The unfettered clash of competing ideas has always been a core part of the Carolina culture. The unfettered clash of competing ideas has always been a core part of the Carolina culture.
Concern about layoffs takes center stage at Employee Forum meeting

Worries about layoffs and rising health-care costs were the focus of the April 1 Employee Forum meeting. Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Brenda Malone spent much of the meeting fielding questions from the floor about the University’s layoff policy for permanent SPA employees and the criteria used to determine which employees are laid off.

The line of questioning followed remarks at the beginning of the meeting by Jerry Howerton, a longtime University employee who worked in the Office of Human Resources (OHR) and, most recently, at WUNC-FM, where he is being laid off. He told forum delegates to push managers to share their plans for making decisions about layoffs and reduction-in-force actions.

Malone said the University sought to make these painful decisions with “honor and integrity.”

“The reality is, we are going to have layoffs,” she said. However, it is understandable for individuals to ask why they lost their jobs when others are still working, Malone said.

But at the end of the day, a business decision has to be made that includes a determination as to which people are most capable of performing the work that remains, she added. It is appropriate that managers, deans and supervisors make those decisions following University and state policies.

Within this process, OHR ensures that employees understand their right to appeal a layoff and the extended benefits to which they are entitled. The office also advises employees where they can turn for help in finding another job, including opportunities within the University.

A human resources specialist meets one-on-one with each employee to go over the options and explain available benefits.

Malone praised Chancellor Holden Thorp for his decision to create an Employee Assistance Fund to provide enhanced outplacement services for employees who are laid off.

“There is no way to put a happy face on this, ever,” Malone said. “It is just a hard decision and it impacts people.”

OHR has posted resource guides for SPA layoffs, one for managers and one for employees, at hr.unc.edu/guides/layoff-guides.

At the end of the meeting, the forum voted to table a resolution on furloughs for further study in committee, but that action was overturned by a motion from the floor to communicate to the chancellor the forum’s opposition to layoffs and furloughs.

Chuck Stone, a representative from the State Employees Association of North Carolina (SEANC), reviewed the eroding health benefits that would result from approving N.C. Senate Bill 287.

The bill calls for eliminating the PPO Plus (90/10) health-care option by July 1. Under this option, an employee pays 10 percent of medical costs after meeting the required deductible.

The bill also would increase deductibles, premiums and co-pay amounts for the remaining PPO Basic (70/30) and PPO Standard (80/20) plans, while requiring that people not smoke or be exces- sively overweight to qualify for the PPO Standard plan.

Stone said SEANC called for the General Assembly to fully fund the State Health Plan and maintain current benefits for state employees.

In another matter, the forum approved a resolution urging the chancellor to change an ordinance regulating visitor and patient parking near UNC Hospitals.
Six honored for service and commitment with prestigious Massey Awards

A housekeeper appreciated for her smile and positive energy. An English professor cited for extraordinary leadership in enhancing the quality of academic life. A research scientist recognized by a Nobel Prize-winner for her dedication and expertise. A planner of special events praised for her calm, logical approach to challenging situations. A professor of orthopaedics cited for his compassion and leadership on many different levels throughout 40 years here. And a University architect recognized for her careful stewardship in guiding Carolina through a $2.1 billion capital program to revitalize the campus.

The late C. Knox Massey of Durham created the awards in 1980 to recognize "unusual, meritorious or superior contributions" by University employees.

In 1984, he joined the families of his son, Knox Massey Jr., and daughter, Kay Massey Weatherspoon, in creating the Massey-Weatherspoon fund. Income from the fund supports the Massey Awards and Carolina Seminars.

Chancellor Holden Thorp will host a luncheon for the recipients April 25 on what will be the 30th anniversary of the awards. Thorp selected this year’s recipients based on nominations from the campus community, and each honoree will receive an award citation and a $6,000 stipend.

The recipients are:
- Pamela Breeden, housekeeper;
- Darryl Gless, professor in the Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences;
- Victoria Madden, a research specialist in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine;
- Jane Smith, associate director of University Events in University Advancement;
- Timothy Taft, a professor of orthopaedics in the School of Medicine and director of Sports Medicine; and
- Anna Wu, director of Facilities Planning and University architect.

Breeden is known as “Ms. Pam” to the students in Spencer Residence Hall who see her as someone who goes beyond her duties to help them make their home away from home the best it can be.

A second-year resident adviser said: “Never before have I encountered someone as passionate and dedicated about their job as Ms. Pam. The first day I moved into the building, Ms. Pam approached me with a smile and introduced herself. While I thought it was a facilities employee introducing herself to the resident adviser, I was wrong. Ms. Pam proceeded to introduce herself to every resident on my floor, and has encouraged communication with all of us ever since.”

GLESS

The respected scholar of the works of Shakespeare and Spenser has numerous publications to his credit. Outside the classroom, Gless’ impressive record of leadership and service amassed during the past quarter-century was noted by Thorp when he served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

From 1997 to 2005, Gless was the first senior dean for the Fine Arts and Humanities and oversaw the development of the First Year Seminar Program, now considered one of the best in the nation. He also was the primary developer and co-author of what became the Robertson Scholars Program, a joint academic program with Duke University, and he served in several national positions that benefited higher education in general.

MADDE N

Madden, who has worked at the University and UNC Hospitals for almost 30 years, was commended for her contributions to electron microscopy imaging of particles in the kidney that contain as few as 70 gold atoms. Among her nominators were Nobel Prize-winner Oliver Smithies and renowned chemistry professor Joe DeSimone.

About Madden’s work, Smithies said: “These particles are smaller than most electron microscopes can image. In the course of this work, she has been a leader in developing techniques that overcome this limitation, and all of this in a most congenial fashion. ... Vicky has not only done her work in a superb way, but she has made changes in the procedures that I could not have even imagined.”

SMI TH

Smith does not work a typical 8-to-5, Monday-through-Friday schedule. Her job includes preparing for convocation, the Chancellor’s Box for home football games, Board of Trustees’ lunches and dinners, chancellor installations and countless other University events — most of which occur outside the regular work week.

In his nominating letter, Jim Kessler, director of disability services, said if Smith’s job were analogous to music, each event’s theme or purpose would be the musical piece, and Smith would be the conductor who managed everything from the caterers to the florists to the parking. “Although these performances occur time and again, each occasion receives the same attention to detail,” he said.

TAFT

Taft came to the University for his residency in orthopaedic surgery in 1969. When he finished in 1974, he was named the Womack Scholar as the outstanding Chief Resident in Surgery and appointed to the faculty.

He has been the centerpiece of the Sports Medicine program and

Improved lighting brightens McCorkle Place and enhances safety

Changing a light bulb may be easy, but changing a lighting system to improve campus safety has proven to be more complex.

After changes to the lighting in McCorkle Place were made a year ago, some students complained to former Student Body President J.J. Raynor that the new lighting had created areas of shadow where intruders could lurk.

Chancellor Holden Thorp walked the area at night to see it firsthand and directed staff to conduct a further review.

The evening of March 18, a contingent of 19 people conducted a “light tour” to review the campus lighting system in McCorkle and Polk places and near Davis Library, Student Stores and Memorial Hall.

John Laetz, manager of Electric Distribution Systems, said while there was a noticeable contrast in lighting type and light levels between McCorkle and Polk places, the group considered the lighting adequate and acceptable from a safety and security viewpoint.

The findings from the tour resulted in several recommendations, including:
- Install additional lighting near the ticket window of Memorial Hall and the bus stop on Cameron Avenue;
- Add new light poles near an intersection of walkways on the west side of McCorkle Place near Hyde Hall and on the east side of the quad next to the Silent Sam statue; and
- Determine lighting improvements for the newly landscaped garden near Hanes Hall.

Several years ago, Chancellor Emeritus James Moeser began the process to provide more uniform lighting and enhance safety throughout McCorkle Place. Similar changes to Polk Place were expected to follow.

An outside consultant recommended using lower wattage lights and doubling the number of poles to avoid “light pollution” in McCorkle Place. Last fall, Energy Services adjusted the lights in the lampposts to provide a maximum amount of light in the area.
Two appointed to new posts

BETH ANDERSON is the new vice president, external and alumni relations, for the Robertson Scholars Program, a joint academic and leadership program with Duke University. The program, created in 2000 with a $24 million initial gift from Julian and Josie Robertson, brings around 36 new scholars annually, half at Carolina and half at Duke. In this newly created position, Anderson will work with Tony Brown, the program’s president, on strategy and lead the recruitment and selection process, develop an alumni program, and manage external communications.

BARBARA MORAN will serve as interim dean of the School of Information and Library Science beginning May 1. Moran has been a Carolina faculty member since 1981 and previously served as SILS dean from 1990 to 1998. “She is an accomplished scholar and teacher and has provided service to the University on many levels through the years,” said Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost. John Stamm, professor of dentistry, heads the search committee for a dean to replace José-Marie Griffiths.

Ernst is 37th faculty member elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Carl William Ernst has been elected as a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation’s oldest and most prestigious honorary societies.

Ernst is the William R. Kenan Jr. Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies and director of the Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations in the College of Arts and Sciences. He specializes in Islamic studies, with a focus on West and South Asia. His published research, based on the study of Arabic, Persian and Urdu, has been mainly devoted to the study of Islam and Sufism.

Last week Ernst received a Guggenheim Fellowship to support his translation and study the poetry of al-Hallaj. In December, he received the Farabi International Award from the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology for his 1997 book on the 12th-century Persian Sufi Ruzbihan Bagli.

Ernst is among 210 new academy fellows announced on Monday, along with 19 foreign honorary members, that include leaders in the sciences, the humanities and arts, business, public affairs and the nonprofit sector. Other new fellows include Civil War historian James McPherson; author Thomas Pynchon; actor James Earl Jones; mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne; singer-songwriter Emmylou Harris; U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and National Public Radio journalist Susan Stamberg.

The scholars, scientists, jurists, writers, artists, civic, corporate and philanthropic leaders come from 28 states and 11 countries and range in age from 33 to 83. The new class will be inducted at a ceremony on Oct. 10 at the academy’s headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.

UNC now has a total of 37 faculty members in the academy.

Ernst’s most recent book, “Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World,” has received several international awards, including the 2004 Bashirahil Prize for Outstanding Cultural Achievement.

He was elected to the American Society for the Study of Religion in 1996 and has received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies, the Fulbright award and other overseas research awards. At Carolina since 1992, he earned his doctorate in religion from Harvard University in 1981.

An independent policy research center, the Academy of Arts and Sciences was founded in 1780 to undertake studies of complex and emerging problems. The academy’s diverse membership of scholars and practitioners from many disciplines and professions gives it a unique capacity to conduct a wide range of interdisciplinary research.


Carolina’s INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AWARDS were presented April 21 in a luncheon at the Carolina Club at the Hill Alumni Center — after the Gazette went to press. Look for the winners’ names and a photo online: gazette.unc.edu/facstaff.html.

MATTHEW HOWARD, Frank A. Daniels Distinguished Professor for Human Services Policy Information at the School of Social Work, has been appointed editor-in-chief of Social Work Research, the flagship journal of the National Association of Social Workers.

CHANCELLOR HOLDEN THORP has been appointed to serve on the Association Patent Reform Task Force, an advisory body to six associations cooperating to represent the higher education community in a Congressionally effort to reform U.S. patent law.

Student Undergraduate Teaching and Staff Awards were presented April 15 in the Great Hall of the FPG Student Union. Those who received awards were: VALERIE ASHBY, professor of chemistry; DAVID GARCIA, assistant professor of music; DAN F. THORNTON, adjunct assistant professor of Germanic languages; and DUANE L. DEARDORFF, director of Undergraduate Laboratories in physics and astronomy.

PEGGY JABLONSKI, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, was honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award by the University of Massachusetts Amherst Alumni Association at an April 16 luncheon.

The National Science Foundation has recognized GAREGIN PAPOIAN and MUHAMMAD YOUSAF, both assistant professors of chemistry, with $600,000 Faculty Early Career Development Awards. The awards support the research of promising young faculty in the early stages of their careers in the chemical and life sciences. The grants will be awarded over a five-year period.

The 2008 Friday Center Awards were recently given to Friday Center staff and associates in recognition of outstanding service. Those honored were: CAROL MCDONNELL, Best All-Around Award; LYNN DAVIS and ELIZABETH SHIMKUS, the Extra Mile Award; and DONNA FITZGERALD, the Sunshine Award. TONY SMITH, who works with public safety, received the Center Service Award.

In addition, the 2009 Friday Center Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to RICHARD KRAWIEC on March 26 when the center hosted its annual instructor appreciation event.

GAY PEREZ, associate director for housing and residential education, was elected president-elect for the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers at its annual conference in February. In addition, DEI ALLARD, assistant director for South Campus Communities, was elected president-elect of the N.C. Housing Officers at its fall conference.

DAVE PCOLAR, systems specialist, is the winner of the University Library’s Outstanding Employee Award for 2008. Pcolar’s colleagues recognized him for the depth of his knowledge and his willing leadership in taking on a variety of complex projects.

Honorable mentions went to LINDA JACOBSON, history museum specialist, and JAMIE MCGARTY, document delivery assistant.

Dramatic art professor RAY DOOLEY has been elected to the board of directors of the University/Resident Theatre Association, which consists of 35 of the most influential schools in theater training in the country and 14 partner theater companies.

PAM SESSOMS, electronic reference services librarian in Davis Library, has been named a 2009 Mover & Shaker by Library Journal. The award recognizes Sessoms for her creation of LibraryH3lp, a virtual reference tool that she and her computer-programmer husband developed. LibraryH3lp makes it easier for reference librarians to respond to and field instant messaging and chat reference questions.
Public service awards recognize breadth of contributions to the state

Providing legal aid to low-income families, mentoring high-potential Latino high school students, building partnerships between the University and local African-American communities, and offering free dental care in North Carolina counties are a few of the public service efforts led by the University community this year.

The Carolina Center for Public Service and the Office of Vice Chancellor for Public Service and Engagement recognized those and other initiatives at the annual service awards ceremony on April 17.

“The breadth and depth of Carolina’s commitment to communities across the state is amazing,” said Lynn Blanchard, the center’s director. “These award winners exemplify the true spirit of public service in their inspiring efforts to make North Carolina an even better place to live.”

Richard Rosen, professor of law, received the seventh annual Ned Brooks Award for Public Service. Rosen, the 2006–07 Pro Bono Faculty Member of the Year and founder of the UNC Innocence Project, was recognized for his promotion of justice and the preparation of the next generation of lawyers for conscientious and zealous advocacy within the judicial system.

The award, named for longtime faculty member and administrator Ned Brooks, recognizes a faculty or staff member who has built a sustained record of community service through individual efforts and promoted the involvement and guidance of others.

The center also presented two Office of the Provost Public Service Awards honoring campus units for service to North Carolina:

- The Scholars’ Latino Initiative was recognized as a comprehensive mentoring program that helps promising Latino high school students achieve their dream of higher education. The organization forges long-term relationships between Latino high school students and UNC undergraduates.
- UNC-NOW was honored for its efforts to build partnerships with local communities, primarily focused in the historically African-American neighborhood Northside. UNC-NOW evolved from work that began with students from Della Pollock’s APPLES course on performance and oral history offered in partnership with St. Joseph’s Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.
- The Robert E. Bryan Public Service Award — recognizing individual students and faculty for exemplary public service efforts — went to senior Christopher Belhorn, dental student Savannah Gelesko, and faculty members Dennis Orthner, Sharon Ritchie and Keith Amos.

Orthner, professor in the School of Social Work, has devoted the last 10 years to building extensive partnerships between the University and community support services and schools through CareerStart, an educational intervention with middle school students across the state.

Ritchie, associate professor in the School of Education and senior scientist at FPG Child Development Institute, was recognized for her work with FirstSchool, a long-term, systems-based process focused on state, district, school and classroom policies and practices for vulnerable young children in pre-kindergarten through third grade.

Amos, assistant professor of surgery in the School of Medicine and a member of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, was honored for his work with Breaking Free. This program reaches out to the public to address concerns and build awareness about breast cancer in Edgecombe and Nash counties.

The center leads the University’s engagement efforts and service to the state of North Carolina and beyond by linking the expertise and energy of faculty, staff and students to the needs of the people.

T

own officials and citizens from Chapel Hill and Carrboro repeatedly challenged the scope and veracity of a fiscal impact study of Carolina North when consultants presented their findings at the School of Government on March 31.

Some officials questioned why some costs were excluded from the report. Others questioned why a host of potential problems, from clean air to traffic congestion, were not factored into the final numbers found in the report.

Still others questioned assumptions about residential and commercial growth that Carolina North would inevitably spur within town limits when no study was done about whether enough land was available within the towns to accommodate such growth.

Jack Evans, the executive director of Carolina North, echoed what consultants from TischlerBise, the Maryland-based consulting group hired to complete the study, said repeatedly during the presentation: The fiscal impact study was designed to isolate the positive or negative impacts the development of Carolina North would have on the bottom lines of Orange County government and the two towns to which Carolina North is connected.

Moreover, Evans said, the fiscal impact would be viewed through a 15-year window that represents the first phase of development at Carolina North.

The University’s long-term plan calls for developing 250 acres on the western edge of Carolina North in consecutive phases over 50 years. The 250 acres lie within the jurisdiction of Chapel Hill.

“The original scope of work drafted by the Policy Committee asked the consultant to evaluate the direct and indirect fiscal impact of Carolina North,” Evans said. “More specifically, the study was to focus on the revenues and costs attributable to Carolina North in the first 15 years of its development.”

Within that framework, Evans added, the consultants successfully accomplished what they were asked to do.

The scope of the study was agreed upon by the Policy Committee. Members of the committee were Evans, Chapel Hill Town Manager Roger Stancil, Carrboro Town Manager Steve Stewart, Orange County Manager Laura Blackmon and David Owens, the Gladys Hall Coates Professor of Public Law and Government in the University’s School of Government.

The report assumed that Carolina North construction would begin during the 2010–11 fiscal year. Over the next 15 years, the study showed that the Chapel Hill government would lose from $967,000 to $2.9 million, primarily from a new fire station that would be needed in the ninth year, while Carrboro and Orange County governments would see net surpluses: $377,000 to $743,000 for Carrboro and $25.1 million to $30.2 million for the county.

"The consultants’ work was a good product in response to the scope of work that they were asked to do," Evans said. "Some people might have been expecting things that the study was neither intended or designed to do."

Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton, for instance, challenged principal consultant Julie Herlands, who presented the findings, about whether the indirect costs tied to Carolina North considered such things as lost time as a result of heavier traffic on Estes Drive Extension or the “opportunity costs” of the town having to commit resources to widen it.

Carrboro Alderman Dan Coleman told Herlands that he rejected the argument that Carolina North would spur residential and commercial growth in Carrboro and Chapel Hill because market forces were such that either town could grow in size to the extent that their
In-depth library consultations support University researchers

When Emily Brewer began her English doctoral studies at Carolina, she felt lost in her research, unfamiliar with the available resources. A professor recommended that Brewer meet with reference librarian Tommy Nixon to research sources for Victorian literature. Nixon was so helpful, Brewer said, that she has asked him to teach sessions on print and digital resources for the 19th-century British literature students and faculty. Such research consultations are an increasingly popular library service. More than 35 library consultants are available by phone, through e-mail and in person.

Nixon said people are used to checking with reference librarians for a quick answer or help finding a book, but many are unaware of the in-depth research support that UNC’s librarians provide. In addition to customizing tutorials on databases and research management software, librarians help develop search strategies and locate hard-to-find sources.

Meetings might range from 15 minutes to an hour or more, but librarians can spend hours preparing, said reference librarian Angela Bardeen. “Sometimes people know what they’re looking for, and other times they want to walk through it with us. We provide whatever level of service is needed.” Each librarian specializes in the literature and methodologies of different subjects, so researchers can work with a librarian who is most knowledgeable about their needs. Bardeen, who specializes in anthropology, education, social work and psychology, helped social work clinical instructor Dania Ermentrout last year with a study on partner violence and child abuse.

“We were doing a literature search on parenting after violence, an area in which there is a dearth of evidence-based practice,” Ermentrout said. “Ms. Bardeen was extremely helpful.” Other requests range from searches for Persian and Urdu manuscripts to state reports on workers’ compensation legislation and collections focused on North African archaeology.

Social work doctoral student Carrie Pettus-Davis came to Bardeen for help after returning to school for the first time in six years. In addition to reorienting her with databases, Bardeen gave Pettus-Davis a library tour that focused on her research area. She said she has contacted Bardeen 10 times for help since then.

Even the most experienced researcher hits a dead end sometimes, Bardeen said. “We want faculty and students to know that there’s someone out there who can help them.” To arrange a library consultation, e-mail refdesk@email.unc.edu, instant message davis-refdesk or use the online consultation request form (see the link at library.unc.edu).”

Editor’s Note: Meagan Racey, a junior from Pinehurst, wrote this article.

Gates Foundation addresses urban poor reproductive health issues

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded the University a grant worth more than $22 million for a new project that aims to improve the reproductive health of the urban poor in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. The project, Measurement, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) for the Urban Reproductive Health Initiative, will be run by the Carolina Population Center and will work with the African Population and Health Research Center, based in Nairobi, Kenya, and the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, D.C.

In 2008, the urban share of the world’s population reached 50 percent and researchers predict nearly all future global population growth will occur in towns and cities in developing countries. In particular, urban populations in Africa and Asia are expected to double between 2000 and 2030.

The MLE project will help identify which urban reproductive health approaches and interventions are most effective and likely to have the biggest impact. The grant runs for six years. In the first year, researchers will focus on getting the project off the ground in India and on developing tools for the wider project.

Two Carolina Population Center fellows are heading the project: David Guilkey, Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor of Economics in the College of Arts and Sciences, is the principal investigator and project director; and Ilene Speizer, research associate professor in maternal and child health in the Gillings School of Global Public Health, is co-principal investigator and technical deputy director.

“It is exciting that the MLE project is being undertaken in parallel with the design and development of the foundation’s programs,” Guilkey said.

The project will focus on:

- Serving as the central technical resource for local efforts to monitor and evaluate programs in countries where the foundation is supporting urban reproductive health initiatives;
- Identifying and documenting evidence-based interventions and best practices for providing health services to the urban poor, and sharing information globally about promising approaches; and
- Building the skills and professional capacity of countries and regions to undertake rigorous measurement and evaluation of population, family planning and integrated reproductive health activities targeted at poor and vulnerable urban populations.

Print Gazette suspends use of color photos

The University Gazette is tightening its belt and will go back to using black-and-white photos in the print publication until the University’s budget situation has improved.

Color versions of the photos still will be available online at gazette.unc.edu, both within the individual stories and in the pdf.

Readers should continue to send news and story ideas to Got News?, gazette.unc.edu/gotnews.html.
**IN BRIEF**

**News**

**REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING FLING**

Spring Fling. Campus Recreation’s three-mile fun run/1.5-mile walk is scheduled for May 8, beginning at Fetzer Gym at 12:15 p.m. Sign in from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

All participants are eligible for prize drawings following the run/walk, and additional awards are given to the team with the most participants and to the team with the most creative costumes that celebrate spring.

Collections are made for two charities. Bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food bank and non-perishable pet items for donation to local animal shelters.

Pre-register by May 1 to be eligible for team awards or register on the day of the event.

campusrec.unc.edu/special_events/spring_reg.pdf

**MAY SEMINAR HELPS YOU GO ‘GREEN’**

A May 18-20 seminar sponsored by UNC Executive Development aims to help companies create green strategies and practices that will have a positive impact on the environment and their organizations. “Becoming Green: Effective Sustainability Strategies for You and Your Organization” shares ways that sustainable practices can make a positive social and environmental impact while helping companies grow.

Carol Seagle and Lisa Jones Christensen, both professors at Kenan-Flagler Business School, along with staff from the Center for Sustainable Enterprise, lead the seminar, to be held at the Rizzo Conference Center. www.execdev.unc.edu

**UELTSCHI GRANTS ANNOUNCED**

Eight faculty members have been selected by APPLES Service-Learning Program to develop innovative courses for undergraduates. Those receiving Ueltschi Service-Learning Course Development Grants — and their courses — are:

- Brian Billman, anthropology — Poverty, Development and Social Action;
- Kelly Hogan, biology — Principles of Biology: Donation of the Cellular Components of Blood;
- Andy Andrews, sociology — Social Movements and Collective Behavior;
- Jennifer Ho, English and comparative literature — Mixed Race in America;
- Margaret O’Shaughnesssey, English and comparative literature — Back to the Garden: Nature and Literature;
- Heidi Hennink-Kaminski, journalism and mass communication — Social Marketing Campaigns;
- Kathleen Curtin, English and comparative literature — Inter-generational Collaborative Writing; and
- Bob Pleasant, women’s studies — Leadership and Violence Prevention.

www.unc.edu/apples

**CHANCELLOR’S AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE**

Nominations are due May 1 for 2009 Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence. One of the University’s most prestigious honors, the awards highlight the selflessness, public service and distinguished accomplishments of five members of the Carolina Community.

Award categories are: outstanding state government service, innovation(s), public service, safety/heroism, human relations and other achievements. Any permanent employee may nominate another employee.

snipurl.com/fy78

**‘APOLOGY OF SOCRATES’ PLAYS APRIL 23–24**

The Outreach Program in Philosophy presents Plato’s "The Apology of Socrates" in the Paul Green Theater April 23 and April 24 at 8:15 p.m. Take a seat in the court of ancient Athens as Socrates goes on trial for his life. Hear the philosopher face his accusers with trademark wit, cutting logic and the courage of his ideals.

Emmy Award winner Yannis Simonides delivers a solo performance and takes part in a question-and-answer discussion following each performance.

Reserve tickets online: www.ncplato.com.

**WELLSTONE CENTER INAUGURATED**

On March 2 the Senator Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Cooperative Research Center was inaugurated at the ITS Manning Building with guest speakers that included U.S. Rep. David Price.

With a five-year, $7 million grant that was announced last fall, the center — one of six Wellstone Centers established by the National Institutes of Health — will aim to develop novel, gene-based therapies for muscle disorders.

R. Jude Samulski, professor of pharmacology in the School of Medicine and member of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and director of the UNC Gene Therapy Center, serves as director, and William Powers, Houston Merritt Professor and chair of neurology, is co-director.

snipurl.com/fwnzs

**APPLY FOR IAH FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS**

The Institute for the Arts and Humanities (IAH) announces the fall deadlines for two faculty fellowship programs for the 2010–11 academic year. Both fellowships provide on-campus semester leaves for faculty to work on projects and attend weekly meetings at the institute.

Applications for IAH Faculty Fellowships are due Sept. 23. Applications for Chapman Family Faculty Fellowships, which
**NEW CURRENTS IN CONTEMPORARY ART**

"WATCHTOWER" Each spring, the Ackland Art Museum presents an exhibition of works by graduating UNC master of fine arts students. This exhibition introduces seven emerging artists who interpret ideas ranging from the personal to the political in a wide variety of media, styles and approaches. It is on display through May 10. Sited on the Ackland's front lawn, Dave Sinkiewicz’s Watchtower (detail shown) is an 1982 International 18-wheeler sleeper cab, with an interior bunk, desk and video. Inside is his interpretation of the cabin of Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski.

**ACKLAND OFFERS SUMMER ART FOR KIDS**

This summer the Ackland Art Museum presents Seeing Your World, a week-long summer art program for children ages 9 to 12. The program runs June 22–June 26, 9 a.m.–noon.

Participants will investigate original works of art in the Ackland’s galleries, practice the techniques used to create them and learn new ways to see and understand through art. The program is $100 for museum members, $125 for non-members.

Preregistration is required; limited scholarships are available. Contact Beth Shaw McGuire (962-0479 or bas5705@email.unc.edu).

**FAMILY WORKSHOP**

**North Carolina Botanical Garden’s Earth Day Family Workshop:** Plants that Trap Insects. 2–4 pm. Call 962-0522. $ ncbg.unc.edu/pages/24/#earth_day

**PERFORMANCE**

**UNC Symphony Orchestra:** We Sing America: The Great American Songbook. Memorial. 8 pm. $ carolinaperformingarts.org

**TOUR**

Free hard-hat tour of the North Carolina Botanical Garden’s new green Education Center given by garden director Peter White. 10–11 am. Call 962-0522 for reservation. ncbg.unc.edu/pages/69

**SKYWATCHING**

Free skywatching session at Jordan Lake, led by Morehead Planetarium educators, local astronomers. 8–10 pm. snipurl.com/fysye

**MAY**

**SEMINAR**

Program for the Humanities & Human Values: "Colonialisms Compared — Empires Across Time and Space." Ctr for School Leadership Development. 9:15 am-5:15 pm. $ 962-1544. adventuresinideas.unc.edu

**PERFORMANCE**

**UNC Symphony Orchestra:** performs Mozart’s Concerto for Flute and Harp and Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet Suite No. 2. Memorial Hall. 7:30 pm. music.unc.edu

**FAMILY WORKSHOP**

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**DOCTORAL HOODING**

Adron Harris, speaker. Smith Ctr. 10 am.

**COMMENCEMENT**

Desmond Tutu, speaker. Kenan Football Stadium. 9:30 am. unc.edu/commencement

Next calendar includes: May 14 – May 27 | Deadline for submissions: 5 p.m., Monday, May 4 | E-mail: gazette@unc.edu | Fax: 843-5966: Clearly mark for the Gazette. | Campus Box: 6205. The Gazette calendar includes only items of general interest geared toward a broad audience. For complete listings of events, including athletics, see the Carolina Events Calendars at www.unc.edu/events.

provide a $5,000 stipend, are due Oct. 21. Both are due at noon. snipurl.com/ltwgU

**PLAYMAKERS’ ONLINE AUCTION**

An array of items is available for bid during PlayMakers Repertory Company’s Online Auction, in process now through April 25. Available for bids are vacation getaways, celebrity dinners, art, antiques, jewelry and that most coveted item of all: basketball tickets.

All auction proceeds support the expansion of PlayMakers artistic and educational programming.

benefitevents.com/auctions/playmakers2009

**PRC2 PRESENTS ‘9 PARTS OF DESIRE’**

Based on a decade of interviews by the Iraqi-American playwright, "Heather Raffo’s 9 Parts of Desire" presents portraits of nine different Iraqi women woven into a riveting presentation that lifts the veil on women’s lives in a culture vastly different than the American experience. It is presented as part of PlayMakers Repertory Company’s PRC2 series, through April 26 in Kenan Theatre. www.playmakersrep.org

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**CLIMATE CHANGE IS SUBJECT OF AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER LECTURE**

Chie Sakakibara, research fellow at the Earth Institute at Columbia University, presents a lecture on April 23 focusing on the Inupiaq people of Alaska and their cultural responses to global warming. Sponsored by the American Indian Center, it is scheduled in Toy Lounge of Dey Hall at 3 p.m.

The Inupiat identify themselves as the “People of the Whales,” and the bowhead whale is the foundational entity through which almost all elements of their Arctic life are integrated. In the Arctic, climate change not only influences bowhead whales and triggers direct threats to subsistence whaling, but also threatens oral traditions, traditional music and indigenous worldviews.

americanindiancenter.unc.edu

**FREE SCREENINGS FOR ORAL, HEAD AND NECK CANCER AT UNC HOSPITALS**

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic at UNC Hospitals offers free screening for head and neck cancer April 29 from 1 to 4 p.m. as part of Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week. The screenings are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointments are required. Contact Laura Lyndon Miller (966-9717 or LLyndon@unch.unc.edu).

**NUMEROUS EVENTS AT INNERBORDER THEATER**

On Saturday, April 25, the Performance Center of the Arts at UNC-Chapel Hill presents The 2009 Innerborder Festival of New Drama, an annual showcase of new plays from the Carolinas. The one-day event features seven new works by emerging playwrights, performed by local actors in a 90-minute matinee. The festival is free. Call 919-843-5210 for information.


The Performance Center of the Arts at UNC-Chapel Hill presents the world premiere of "At the Dog’s Command," by UNC’s own Summary, a new play by the freshly minted playwright Thomas J. Bolden. The play is directed by the Performance Center’s own directorship, Dr. John Epps. Call 919-843-5210 for information.

**SCIENCE CLINICAL SCREENINGS**

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boards allowed.

Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy challenged the limited scope of the study and asked why all potential costs had not been included. Although University security officers will protect Carolina North, situations could arise when assistance from Chapel Hill police would be requested, Foy said.

Herlands said the financial impact was not included in the figures because the associated costs would be minimal.

Evans said the purpose of the presentation was to provide a foundation or starting point for discussions between the Chapel Hill Town Council and the University Board of Trustees as the two policy-making boards seek to formulate an appropriate fiscal relationship associated with Carolina North.

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Healthy Start Foundation and Project HOPE. Currently, he is a member of Gov. Beverly Perdue’s Budget Reform and Accountability Commission.

HELEN M. SCHEIRBECK

Helen Scheirbeck, a national champion of American Indian rights and self-determination, will receive a doctor of laws degree.

A native of Lumberton and a member of the Lumbee tribe of North Carolina, Scheirbeck recently retired as senior adviser for museum programs and scholarly research at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian.

Scheirbeck began her career as a staff member of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights chaired by former Senator Sam Ervin. On her recommendation, Ervin held hearings that culminated in the Indian Bill of Rights.

In 1968, she was named director of the Office of Indian Education in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, where she led efforts to pass the Indian Education Act of 1975.

As a member of the American Indian Policy Review Commission, she worked to craft reforms that led to the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1978.

She later served as founding director of the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center in Pembroke and directed the Indian Head Start program.

LEE M. SMITH

Lee Smith, a vibrant cultural force in the literary life of North Carolina, the American South and the United States for more than three decades, will receive a doctor of letters degree.

Smith writes with a keen feel for the landscapes, culture and language of Southern Appalachia. In particular, she has given voice to the courage, endurance and creativity of Appalachian women.

She is author of 15 award-winning novels and collections of stories, including “Fair and Tender Ladies,” “Family Linen” and “On Agate Hill.”

Through the years, Smith has held faculty appointments in creative writing at Hollins College, Duke University, Carolina and North Carolina State University. With the aid of a Lila Wallace–Reader’s Digest grant, she has worked with writing students in many settings, including a three-year period with the Hindman Settlement School in eastern Kentucky, elementary school students in western North Carolina and high school students in her hometown of Grundy, Va.

Her honors include two O. Henry Awards, the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature, the Robert Penn Warren Fiction Prize and the North Carolina Award for Fiction.
A home sweet home for helping students

Mimi Keever started working at the University’s Learning Center while in graduate school after failing to get a job teaching high school English. That was in 1978.

Frank Kessler arrived at the center three years later after losing his job as a history professor in Virginia.

They have worked together for almost three decades — and the thought of working anywhere else, or with anyone else, seems almost unimaginable to them now.

Keever and Kessler. It has the ring of a high-powered law firm, but there is no shingle outside the center bearing their names. If there were, it would likely read Home Sweet Home.

That is what the center has become for them and more importantly, what they have strived to make it for the countless students who have passed through the door.

They joke about being like an old married couple who think so much alike they can complete each other’s sentences. They have been wedded to the idea that their job begins with welcoming students by offering support without passing judgment.

Much of what they do is to help students develop survival skills: how to read with sharper focus and greater speed; how to take tests without fear; how to take notes. They learn how to be more efficient at everything so they can find extra time to master the classes that are a struggle.

Both Keever and Kessler believe there is more to their roles than helping students understand a difficult subject, though. Sometimes, it is being understanding as students try to figure out who they are and what they really want.

“We are never interested in criticizing the professors,” Kessler said. “We are here to support them, but their reference points are just different. In a big class of 100 people it is impossible for them to get to know all their students, much less have an idea about what is important to them in their lives.”

Many students labor under the weight of high expectations. Having goals and wanting to meet them is laudable, Kessler said, but problems occur when those fixed goals foreclose other possibilities.

“A lot of kids come here carrying high expectations from their families,” he said. “We understand that. There is nothing wrong with supportive parents who want a great life for their children.

“But we see the students as adults in process, and part of the process of becoming an adult is recognizing that ultimately it is their life and they have a right to decide what they want to do with it. We can’t give them the answers, but by listening we are giving them permission to find the right answers for themselves.”

Kessler grew up in central Michigan and taught labor history at Virginia State University until hard times hit in 1981 and he was let go. When he came to Chapel Hill, he viewed the job at the Learning Center as a temporary gig — until he started doing it.

What makes Kessler so good at what he does is, Keever said, that he already understood the job the day he started.

It was Keever’s job to train him. Part of the training called for Kessler to observe an experienced staff member working with a student; part involved Keever observing Kessler working with a student.

“I was not in the room for more than three minutes before I stood up and told both of them, ‘You don’t need me in here,’ and walked out.”

She observed a person who asked good questions, who listened “really, really well” and could establish a rapport with a student almost instantly.

“Students feel so comfortable with him that they tell him everything,” Keever said. “Sometimes, we hear more than we want to. Some of their stories are really touching; some are really tragic; some are very disturbing. But somebody has to hear them.

“Those are the things that Frank has the most perfect instincts for. He has the instinct of making students feel they are in a safe place.”

Kessler grew up in Greensboro and went to what was then Randolph-Macon Women’s College in Lynchburg, Va., where she majored in English. She came to Chapel Hill to earn a master’s degree in teaching and ended up staying to earn a Ph.D. in English.

While she was taking her oral exams — and struggling with them — a trusted professor confronted her. You are smart; you should be able to do this, he said. But what is it you want?

He did for Keever what she has done for countless students ever since: He helped her find herself. “I am thankful now that he was so hard on me because he helped me to remember what I had never stopped wanting. I wanted to teach,” she said.

She began as a reading instructor at the Learning Center in 1978 when she was in graduate school. After Keever earned her doctorate, she accepted a full-time position as the center’s assistant director in 1979 and became director in 1993.

“This has been the perfect match for me,” Keever said. “I get to be with students and can work with them on anything. I don’t have to grade them. I don’t have to make judgments on them. And I still get to watch them grow.”

Kessler said one of the qualities he most respects about Keever is her refusal to turn away anyone who comes in search of help.

It could be a staff member thinking about taking a first college class. It could be a spouse of an international student trying to learn English. It could be a graduate of another university wanting to hone writing skills to prepare for law school or brush up on chemistry before going to medical school.

“The opportunity to meet so many different people and help them through so many stages of life is what makes what we do such an educational experience for us,” Keever said. “It is why, after 30 years, it is still so much fun.”

She remembers an argument with a former boss over money. She wanted more than he had to give because she wanted to continue doing more than he thought was possible.

In exasperation, he blurted, “You know, Mimi, you can’t do everything.”

“No,” she told him, “but I can try.”
Undergraduates prepare to GO! GLOBAL in their work

After Fahmida Azad collects her diploma next month, she will complete one last leg of her undergraduate education. This summer she plans to spend six weeks in India conducting research and interning with a non-governmental organization in Udaipur, Rajasthan.

Working through Nourish International, a Campus Y committee that addresses poverty worldwide, Azad is one of a half-dozen Carolina students who will work in northwestern India to create a documentary illustrating how young community members evolve as leaders. Part documentation, part recruitment effort, the film is intended to help empower young leaders within their communities.

“The people will start their own sustainable development projects,” said Azad, a senior psychology major. “Our goal is to document the work of these leaders as they do something to benefit the community as a way to encourage other young leaders in surrounding areas to pick up on this idea for their own communities.”

Azad, who is from Bangladesh but has lived in the United States since she was 9, will serve as the translator. She has taken courses in Hindi writing and reading and speaks the language fluently.

To make sure the content is authentic, she will be the conduit of information from the community leaders to the documentary makers, including her fellow Tar Heels.

Azad is no stranger to traveling abroad; she traveled throughout Southeast Asia the summer before her sophomore year. But she knew this summer would provide a different kind of experience and wanted to be prepared for what to expect. She also hoped to meet and talk with other students who had already been through similar experiences as well as faculty and staff who could provide region-specific information.

“We learned that things are not always black and white,” Azad said. “In the group exercises, for example, we talked about how some of the major American ideals are challenged abroad. We tend to value things that we accomplish — the time- and task-oriented things — but that might not be the value system in another culture.

“Making us think about these things helped prepare us for what we might encounter and how to conduct ourselves.”

The brainchild of Jenny Huq, director of the APPLES Service-Learning Program, and Lucy Lewis, assistant director of the Campus Y, GO! Global is an outgrowth of smaller programs that had existed within the two units, now broadened to help address the University’s increasing international focus.

“During the nine-month planning process, we integrated successful training components from various programs and scaled them up to better serve the needs of undergraduates across campus,” Huq said. “One objective was merely to bring the students together so no one felt alone or without resources.”

The orientation was a campuswide collaboration of 15 programs that support undergraduate international experiences (see www.unc.edu/go/about.php). Five programs provided financial support: APPLES, Campus Y, Burch Programs and Honors Study Abroad, Morehead-Cain Foundation and the Center for Global Initiatives.

REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Students who sign on for this type of international experience are highly motivated to make a difference in the world. Often, however, they have difficulty balancing their aspirations with realistic expectations. Helping them find that pragmatic middle ground was one of the goals of GO! Global.

“We have so many high-achieving students at Carolina, and we encourage them to be successful. Then, they’re put in a situation where they might not know the language, or the culture and ethics of an area,” Lewis said.

“There’s a real need to talk beforehand about what these students realistically can achieve, because we don’t want to set them up to be discouraged about this important learning experience.”

For Elaina Giolando, a sophomore international studies major who will work and conduct community-based research throughout Guatemala this summer through a SURF fellowship, that message was key.

“The orientation really addressed creating a realistic idea about what we can accomplish,” she said. “We talked about how to tackle big problems by making improvements — and how to appreciate that accomplishment.”

Another valuable aspect, she said, was discussing what it meant to spend a significant period of time in a developing country and become part of that community.

Giolando will spend the summer conducting research and interning with Community Enterprise Solutions, which helps communities develop sustainable solutions to rural economic, health and educational problems. She will stay with local families along the way.

Preparing the students was a “team effort.”

Leading the orientation discussions were Carolina faculty members Barbara Anderson and Ann Dunbar from the Department of African and Afro-American Studies, and Trude Bennett and Deborah Bender from the Gillings School of Global Public Health. They were joined by Hannah Gill from the Institute for the Study of the Americas and Darla Dardorff from Duke University’s Association of International Education Administrators.

In addition, a panel of six students who had worked in developing countries talked about ethical challenges they faced.

“Hearing the personal experiences of people who had done similar things was really valuable,” Giolando said.

Azad agreed. “It helped us see that setting unrealistic expectations can build up a lot of frustration.”

Based on feedback from participants, Huq and Lewis already have ideas for improvements for next year. Also, the students will reconvene on Sept. 17 for GO! Reflections to reflect on their experiences abroad.

They will create a legacy of their work by turning items from their travels into a reflective art project, led by community artist Bryant Holsenbeck.