THE DAILY CLIPS

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By Tom Marine
The Daily Reflector

Jessica Weeks and Heang Lim are taking an alternative road toward medical residency.

After graduating from East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine on Saturday, their paths lead more than 1,000 miles away to Santa Lucia, a rural town in western Honduras.

Weeks and Lim are leaving later this month to perform medical mission work for the third poorest country in the western hemisphere through the nonprofit, non-governmental organization Shoulder to Shoulder. "I would hope we contribute to improving the overall health of their community, in whatever small way," Weeks said. "It's cliche to say make a difference, but this is why we got into medicine."

As part of their mission, Weeks and Lim said they will help staff the medical clinic, improve the rural primary referral center and work with the medical brigades.

Dr. Jeff Heck, a professor at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine and executive director of Shoulder to Shoulder, said the region where Weeks and Lim will be working suffers greatly from poverty. He said 60 percent of the population lives under the world poverty level and 27 percent live in extreme poverty, meaning less than one dollar per day.

"It's a hard place to live," Heck said. "They are going to approach the care of their patients, especially poor people, in a very different way as a result of this experience."

Weeks and Lim budgeted $12,000 to cover their expenses for the nine months they are abroad. The vast majority, Weeks said, will be spent on insurance and air fares.

To this point, they have raised about $7,000 in donations. Although the pair does plan to travel back in six months for residency interviews, Weeks and Lim said they will return to Honduras for the final three months if they can raise the remaining money.

"For two dollars a day, you can feed a starving physician," Lim said with a laugh.

Their classmates decided to make a $1,000 donation as the class gift instead of giving a traditional one to the medical school. Heck he advised Weeks and Lim to be prepared to live in an isolated environment, but also encouraged them to learn something new about themselves and reflect on their profession.

"They're both remarkable young people," he said. "They are struck with the importance of their work and that cannot be em-
THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Chancellor choice

Congratulations to the UNC system for hiring Holden Thorp as UNC-Chapel Hill's 10th chancellor. He certainly seems like an excellent choice. I am glad that system leaders felt that the best candidate could be found internally as opposed to paying large search fees to bring in a "superstar" candidate from Texas, Michigan or California only to see that person leave for the next "big" job.

My alma mater, N.C. State, made a similar move with James Oblinger, who is doing a fantastic job. These men are both committed to their universities and understand the culture and politics of our state.

I wish Chancellor Thorp good luck, and having started his career in academia at N.C. State, I am sure he is well-prepared for the job!

Matt Smith
N.C. State Class of 1994
Apex
UNC to get ABC bureau

ABC News has chosen the UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication as one of five university programs in the U.S. that will open a mini-bureau for ABC News on Campus in September.

The division will provide students with an opportunity to report on local stories and produce multimedia content for various digital and broadcast formats, including "Good Morning America," "World News With Charles Gibson," abcnews.com and ABC News Radio. ABC News will provide "state of the art" digital technology for reporting and production.

"These college bureaus will extend the newsgathering reach of ABC News throughout the country," ABC News President David Westin said in a news release. Westin went on to say that the program would "nurture bright young journalism students."

John Green, executive producer of special programming and development at ABC News, says the program will give ABC News a chance to help "groom some of the best budding journalists at these schools, and get to know them."

Green says that when he was considering which schools should be involved in the project, he wanted to focus on those that offered broad programs that encompassed all aspects of modern journalism, and UNC met his criteria.

"I had long heard that UNC-Chapel Hill had a great journalism program," Green says. "One of the things that I did when we got the funding for the project was I went to the Carnegie Foundation in New York City, and I spoke to the president — because I really wanted a recommendation from someone that was working full time in academia — to give me some advice on programs that were really exciting right now."

Each mini-bureau will include student staffers who will be paid by ABC News, and supervised and vetted by ABC News and a faculty member appointed by the university.

UNC's faculty liaison for the project is assistant professor David Cupp, who teaches electronic journalism, writing for the electronic media, and voice and diction.

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Five students have been chosen as paid staffers: Jennifer Carpenter, Walter Storhoff, Wilson Andrews, Zachary Ferriola-Bruckenstein and Carly Swain.

Swain, a 21-year-old junior (soon to be a rising senior), will be campus bureau chief. Swain is an anchor and director at UNC's student-news TV program "Carolina Week."

"Of course, we're trying to pull from all over the campus and get everybody involved in this," she says. "Being part of a pilot program with a big network like this is really exciting."

The other four universities participating in the program are Arizona State University, Syracuse University, University of Florida and University of Texas at Austin.