

While you were gone...

Doctoral student awarded Ford minority fellowship

BY JAIRUS DAYTON
THE GAMECOCK

The prestigious Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship for minority students has been awarded to Rihana Williams, a doctoral student at the University of South Carolina.

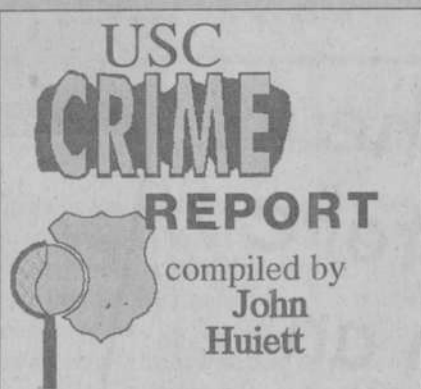
Williams is pursuing a degree in experimental psychology, the three year fellowship will enable her to study how people acquire vocabulary when reading. Williams will be studying under the guidance of University of South Carolina's psychology professor Dr. Robin Morris in USC's laboratory for eye movement and cognitive processes.

Williams is the daughter of Dr. Shir-lene M. Williams of Hawkinsville and Dr. Freddy J. Williams of Panama City Florida. Williams has a long history of outstanding academic accomplishments, she graduated magna cum laude with a psychology degree from Spelman college. In 1998, she was selected to conduct research at USC's nationally recognized NSF-funded Summer Research Institute. In 1997, she was awarded the Careers and Opportunities Research Training award by the National Institute of Health.

Williams is also a member of numerous academic organizations including Phi Beta Kappa Honor society, Psi Chi, and Golden Key.

She plans to continue her research on the cognitive, developmental and physiological processes of reading. In addition to the Ford Foundation Fellowship, Williams holds a University of South Carolina Fellowship, which is a three year research-based fellowship that includes an \$8,000 stipend.

There are only approximately 50 Ford Foundation awards given each year for outstanding academic achievement, scholarly potential, and a research proposal. A \$14,000 stipend accompanies the award.



compiled by
John Huiett

Wednesday, August 9

Civil disturbance, Lieber College. The complainant stated that while informing the subject of her termination of employment from Lieber College, the subject became loud and boisterous and then left the area. The subject's personal effects were collected and arrangements were made to return them to the subject.

Assistance rendered, Whaley and Marion Streets. The responding officer was called to the incident location in reference to a white male laying on the ground. The subject smelled of an alcoholic beverage and had slurred speech. Emergency Medical Services and the Columbia Fire Department responded. The subject was then transported to Baptist Medical Center.

Accidental damage, C-1 parking lot. The complainant stated she accidentally damaged the brick framing wall on the sidewalk of Thornwell Dorm with her vehicle, a 1999 Ford Escort. There was no damage done to the vehicle. The complainant reported the incident to her insurance company. Estimated damage: \$100.

Tuesday, August 8

Larceny of money, Roost Dorm. The victim stated that while he was away from his dorm room, someone removed \$20 cash and a Regions Visa check card from his wallet. When he called to cancel the card, he was informed that someone had already charged \$100 to the card. The incident location was secured at the time of the theft. The charges on the card are outside the USC Police Department jurisdiction.

Monday, August 7

Trespassing after notice, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, Osbourne College, Bull Street. Responding officers responded to a suspicious person call at the incident location. Upon the officers' arrival, the complainant stated she had asked the subject to leave the building but the subject refused. The officers talked to several people who positively identified the subject. An officer asked the subject to step outside so he could be questioned. Once outside, the subject refused the officer's request for a picture ID. Then, the subject demanded the names and badge numbers of all officers present and was given that information. Another officer arrived and tried to talk to the subject, but the subject became very belligerent. When officers tried to calm him, the subject became enraged, using profane language. When the officers tried to arrest the subject he resisted by swinging his arms. The subject was then placed in handcuffs, double-locked and transported to the Richland County Detention Center.

Larceny of wallet, Thomas Cooper Library, first floor. The victim stated that an unknown subject removed her wallet from her backpack. The backpack was left unattended on a library table. In addition to the wallet, the following items were missing: \$10 cash, a Visa credit card, a cash card, a Japanese cash card and a South Carolina driver's license. Estimated value: \$250 for the wallet, plus the \$10 cash.

Sunday, August 6

Grand larceny, USC School of Medicine. The responding officer responded to the incident location and learned that an unknown subject had gained entry into a locked office without forced entry and removed the following items: a Gateway E-1400 computer, a canvas bag with gym clothes, two Sony compact disc players with headsets, a small radio about the size of a quarter with a headset, a portable radio, one pair of black shorts, a white T-shirt and several medical text books. Estimated value: \$2,053.

Saturday, August 5

Larceny of bicycle, Bates House. The victim stated that he locked his bicycle to the proper rack at Bates House four days prior to the theft. When he returned, he found his bicycle missing. The bicycle was black and purple and of the brand name Magma. Estimated value: \$90.

GREEN SPACE

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"You need to have safety on your mind whether you are walking 100 feet or 10 feet," Snyder said, adding that the Bull Street garage, while farther away, will be well-lit and patrolled by police on a regular basis.

He also dismissed criticism that the absence of metered spaces will compound parking problems for students, saying parking gripes are nothing new to USC.

"Despite the complaints, the Uni-

versity has always had a good amount of parking reasonably close to campus," Snyder said.

And as to possible parking problems in this semester resulting from the "green spaces," Snyder said the end result of the Master Plan would be worth any temporary grief.

"There might be some inconvenience, but in the long run the students will be better off," Snyder said.

Originally, USC's summer plans didn't include completing the "green space" project. Rather, it was only a project "on the horizon for the near future," Snyder said.

But when the funding became available, the University opted to tackle the

job during summer months when less students would be inconvenienced by the process.

"The University felt the summer would be a good time to do it," Snyder said.

While Snyder contends that students will surely benefit, at least two businesses that operate out of the Russell House, The Grand Marketplace and the Russell House Bookstore, could be adversely affected by the loss of close parking spaces.

Mike Griffin, food service manager for Russell House student dining area The Grand Marketplace, expressed concern for the restaurant's business as well as how the lack of close parking could affect em-

ployees. Not only could The Grand Marketplace's business with commuting students decline, Griffin said, but employees who relied on handicapped parking in the lot beside the Russell House are going to be placed at a disadvantage.

"There's going to be more competition for handicapped parking around the building," Griffin said.

Griffin said what upset him the most was that he wasn't even aware of the parking lot conversion until concrete started flying.

Russell House Bookstore manager Michael McLaughlin is anticipating some negative effect, but said it's too early to tell how much the store's business will

suffer.

"I don't know how much that lot is a player [in our business]," McLaughlin said. "I know we're going to see some result, I just don't know how big."

McLaughlin said sometimes the lot hurt the store more than it helped, though, inconveniencing vendors making deliveries because every space in the lot was already taken. He added that he would discourage those who would criticize USC too harshly for parking woes.

"I've been on a lot of university campuses and parking is always an issue," McLaughlin said. "I don't think I've been on any campus where the parking is great." To offset business losses, the book-

store is validating an hour's worth of parking at the Bull Street Garage for customers who make a purchase of \$10 or more.

The next phase of campus urbanization and beautification will be a full lawn area behind Preston College, where a faculty and staff parking lot has long been present. Work crew have already torn down a maintenance building behind the college and are preparing to lay "green space" in its place. However, Snyder said the complete lot makeover, "isn't going to be happening anytime soon."

John Huiett is the fall City/Metro editor. He can be reached at gamecocknews@hotmail.com.

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