

## Thought-provoking Programs

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Tulane University Campus Programming, a student-led organization, has a tradition of providing stimulating discussion and entertainment. This fall, TUCP continues that tradition, kicking off with a Direction series lecture that will focus on the military policy of “don't ask, don't tell.”



Students pack McAlister Auditorium for a Direction event organized by student-led TUCP (Tulane University Campus Programming). (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

On Wednesday (Sept. 15), [Dan Choi](#), a former lieutenant in the U.S. Army and an Iraq War veteran, will speak at 7 p.m. in Dixon Hall Auditorium on the uptown campus. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The issue continues to stir controversy on the national level. A federal court in Riverside, Calif., ruled Thursday (Sept. 9) that the “don't ask, don't tell” policy, which bars gay men and lesbians from serving openly, is unconstitutional.

An advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, Choi was notified of his discharge from the army in July, nearly a year after he publicly announced he was gay on “The Rachel Maddow Show.”

TUCP president Matt Simmons says the Direction series attempts to bring to campus “the most engaging figures to provide entertaining and educational events.”

In addition to Direction events, TUCP committees plan concerts, comedy events, cinema, recreation and lagniappe (smaller-scale events like bringing an ice cream truck to campus).

On Sept. 30, TUCP brings the popular electronic rock duo [Ratatat](#) to McAlister Auditorium for a concert at 8 p.m. Student discounted tickets are \$10 and available in the Student Organization Center (room G11E) of the Lavin-Bernick Center. Tickets for the public are available [online](#) for \$20.

On Oct. 7 the Homecoming concert features Dr. Dog on the LBC Quad, starting at 6:45 p.m. with an opening band. Another concert on Oct. 11 on the LBC Quad features Local Natives starting at 6 p.m., with opening bands The Ruby Suns and The Union Line. These concerts are free and open to the public.

Other events are in the process of being booked. Students who want to be notified of upcoming events or participate in TUCP programming may contact [Simmons](#).