

The Banner

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Student fee committee proposes increase for 1998-99

By Nancy Hayes
Staff Writer

The student fee committee will recommend a 4 percent increase in fees for school year 1998-99 to the Board of Trustees at their January meeting, according to Board

of Trustee representative to the student fee committee, Robert Cranford.

Thirteen percent of the proposed increase is in the recreation area of the budget, and will go toward staffing the new Justice Center facility, according to Cranford. The recreation budget also includes portions of coaches' salaries.

Education and technology's share of the

proposed increase, slated for classroom and lab materials, will be 8.5 percent. Athletics will receive slightly more than 2 percent of the proposed increase.

Student fees at UNCA are the highest in the 16-school UNC system, with a large portion going to support Division I athletics.

"The Board of Trustees is concerned over

student fees in general, and the athletic impact is of great concern to the board," said Board of Trustee Chairman Jesse Ray, Jr.

"Academically, we have reached a level we're very proud of. Hopefully, we'll achieve that same level athletically. A solid, successful athletics program is one that is able to garner financial support. But we have to

build a foundation, and, as with anything in life, there has to be a sacrifice."

Eric Iovacchini, vice chancellor for student affairs, admits that student fees will continue to rise.

"State-mandated salary increases for certain employees must come out of student fees. Our only other choice is to cut services," said Iovacchini.

SGA debates bills in Senate

Footwear policy, Banner circulation cuts, and free laser printing proposed

By Catharine Sutherland
News Editor

Student Government Association (SGA) senators presented legislation on the Senate floor Nov. 12, and have been debating the proposed bills for the past two weeks. The following bills have been proposed and voted upon so far:

Bills Passed:

Bill Number 45 initiated by Residential Senator Doug Jones, submitted by Jones, resolves to form a committee of faculty, staff, and students to review the feasibility of a campus-wide program enabling students to buy personal computers through the university.

Bill Number 46 initiated by Jones, submitted by Jones, aims to extend the open hours of computer labs in Robinson 006 and 223, and Zageir 025, all with free laser printing services, during peak hours of student use.

Bill Number 47 initiated by Jones, submitted by Sophomore Senator Eric Winters, proposes to decrease *The Banner* circulation by 10 percent to decrease waste and divert revenue towards a university child-care facility.

Bill Number 49 initiated by Legislative Librarian and Sophomore Senator Jessica Weiss, submitted by Weiss, resolves that SGA supports the regular maintenance of Founders Hall bathtubs, which are currently being used as cleaning supply closets by the housekeeping staff.

Bill Number 51 initiated by Sophomore Amy Douglas, submitted by Sophomore Senator Eric Winters, resolves to protect student health by requiring footwear in every university building, excluding the residence halls. The bill also legislates signage outlining this policy on entrance to affected buildings.

Bill Number 56 initiated by Residential Senator Derek Edwards, submitted by Edwards, suggests a student be appointed each year by the SGA president to sit on the teacher awards committee and represent the student body.

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Bills Failed:

Bill Number 48 initiated by Jones, submitted by Sophomore Senator Zach Peterson, aimed to eliminate Campus Commission funding of *The Banner*, as it is not properly recognized by SGA and does not fulfill paperwork requirements. The bill failed by unanimous vote.

Student and senator commentary about the legislation follows.

In response to bill number 47, legislation to cut *Banner* circulation by 10 percent, commuter student Mischa Irsch said he "got very upset" when he heard about it.

"As a commuter, *The Banner* right now is very available to me. I would not bother having to go to a computer lab and look it up (on-line)," said Irsch, a junior biology and German major. "Being off campus now, I really read the whole thing."

"Cutting down would just hurt the commuter community. I think the school needs to do whatever it can to offer commuters the chance to know what's going on on campus."

"I know people read it. I've seen people read it. I don't think it's right (to cut circulation)," Irsch said.

Senior environmental studies major Leland Davis also opposed the bill.

"It seems like lately people have been reading (*The Banner*) a lot more than they did when I first came to school here. If readership is going up, it would be strange to cut the production back," Davis said.

The bill, which originally aimed to cut circulation by 30 percent, was not written from a budgetary perspective, but an environmental one, Jones said. The goal of the bill was to reduce waste caused by over circulation.

Tatum initially vetoed the bill, but repealed his veto on Tuesday, saying it was more trouble to veto the bill, since senators could easily overturn his ruling.

"I looked at this way: *The Banner* circulation is not going to be affected by 10 percent. 10 percent is

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Student documents life in Western North Carolina



PHOTO BY SARA HARNDEN

Photos by senior Sara Harnden are now on display in Ramsey Library. Her collection, "Postmodern Hyperspace," captures the increasingly multi-cultural life of Western North Carolina near her home in Leicester.

Book co-op starts on-line version

By Veronika Gunter
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) Book Co-op is now on-line, making the service more accessible to students who want an alternative to selling textbooks back to the UNCA bookstore.

"This will definitely increase participation," said Tiffany Drummond, co-op co-founder and

SGA vice-president.

Formerly, co-op book-shoppers had to go to a room in Highsmith Center and wade through stacks of books to see if what they needed was available.

Now, students connecting to www.unca.edu/banner/books will be able to search for the textbooks they need by entering the department, class number and title, book title, author, or price range of the books they need. Co-op prices are set by textbook owners.

Drummond estimates \$2,000 in book sales were handled by the book co-op since it began in the spring.

The co-op will begin collecting books from sellers on Monday.

The co-op will offer books for sale Jan. 12-16 on a first-come, first-served basis, Drummond said.

Banner Electronic Editor and senior Nate Conroy suggested the idea of an on-line co-op to Drummond earlier in the year, Drummond said.

"I was 100 percent receptive. I was overjoyed that he volunteered" to create the site, Drummond said.

"From what I've seen so far, it looks like he's done a fantastic job."

"It sounds good to me," Eliza Pemberton, a sophomore environmental science major, said of the co-op.

She generally relies on sharing books among friends or buying from people she knows, and has not used

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Public safety to use radar guns to curb speeding in 'trouble spots'

By Amanda Thorn
Staff Writer

As early as next semester, drivers on campus will know immediately whether or not they are breaking the university's 20 mile-per-hour speed limit. A \$3,000 radar system purchased by Public Safety will aim radar guns at passing vehicles and

display the driver's speed on a large screen.

"This system allows drivers to see the speed they are traveling at, and allow them to be more aware of their speed and their speed limit," said Dennis Gregory, interim public safety director.

"I think this is a great idea. Students do drive at high speeds, and there is a potential for a pedestrian to be harmed. It is an agreeable idea

to educate students to go slower," said Zach Brown, senior computer science major.

The radar gun and display signs will be used in two "trouble spots" on University Heights, in front of Rhodes-Robinson and Zageir Halls, Gregory said.

The new system will also enable Public Safety officers to issue speeding tickets to drivers, a task which has been almost impossible to do in

the past because the officers had no way of documenting a driver's speed.

"We have no way of issuing a ticket, and it is hard to win in court without having a device to monitor speed," Gregory said. Public Safety typically issues one or two speeding tickets a year.

Writing speeding tickets is not the

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Computers become mandatory for WCU freshmen

By Mandisa Templeton
Staff Writer

In accordance with one of Western Carolina University's newest requirements, members of next year's incoming freshman class will have to purchase their own com-

puters.

The new rule leads many to question whether such a requirement may soon appear at other state colleges, particularly UNCA.

"There is no doubt," said Frank Prochaska, associate vice chancellor of academic affairs at WCU, "a trend has begun with colleges (requiring computers) the next few years."

The question of mandatory computers has come up at UNCA, but administrators feel that computers are still too costly for the average student to purchase, said Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Eric Iovacchini.

However, Iovacchini did not rule out the idea that required computers may become a reality in the future.

"There may be a day in higher education where students are required to have computers everywhere," Iovacchini said.

The price of computers may have dropped by that time, making it more affordable for the average student to purchase his or her own computer, Iovacchini said.

While WCU's Student Government Association and its Faculty Senate voted to

support making computers a mandatory item for each student, many UNCA students claim the additional cost of personal computers would be excessive, considering the amount of computer labs available on campus.

"I think (requiring computers) is a bit

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