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Senate bill would give BOG student member

By Warren Hynes
Staff Writer

One UNC-system student could soon be given partial representation on the Board of Governors if a bill introduced in the N.C. Senate Tuesday becomes a law.

The bill, whose short title is "UNC Board of Governors' Changes," proposes that the president of the UNC Association of Student Governments be given a one-year term as a non-voting member of the BOG, said Mark Bibbs, a UNC-CH student and ASG president.

In this ex officio role, a student representative could receive full speaking privileges in all BOG general meetings and functions, as well as in one of the board's standing committees. But the student would not be allowed to vote on any issue, Bibbs said.

The bill was sponsored by N.C. Sen. George Daniel, D-Caswell and Alamance, and referred Wednesday to the Senate Committee on Higher Education. The student representative plan is tied to a proposal to extend the terms

of BOG members from four to six years, Bibbs said.

The bill, like all bills that do not contain appropriations or tax changes, must be approved by the Senate by May 15. If the bill is passed in the Senate and the House, it will take effect July 1.

But Bibbs, who is beginning his second term as ASG president, said he would be ineligible to serve as the representative because he is a state employee. He now works as a special aide to House Speaker Daniel Blue Jr. The position would be filled by a designee of Bibbs or by someone else chosen by ASG members.

Bibbs said he was not disappointed that he could not fill the role himself. "It's not necessarily disappointing because when I was elected last year, the student body presidents wanted to see that this bill would be introduced," he said. "I promised that I would work to get the bill in, and I think I fulfilled that promise."

State senators and BOG members had differing opinions about the proposed position.

BOG Chairman Samuel Poole said

he wanted everyone to have the chance to be heard, but UNC-system students had been given this opportunity through representation on their schools' boards of trustees.

One student from each system school serves on his or her school's BOT. "That's where the input from the campus needs to be," he said.

Having a student BOG member would not be as effective as having students serve on the BOTs because there are too many differences among the schools, Poole said.

"The students (at any UNC-system school) really have very little in common with the policies of other schools in the UNC system," he said. "There are totally different interests involved. The students at Chapel Hill don't know anything about what goes on at Pembroke (State University)."

Sen. Betsy Cochrane, vice chairwoman and ranking minority member of the higher education committee, said she did not object to a student being a member of the BOG as long as it was in

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DTH/Kevin Chignell

Speed sleeper

Chip Phillips, Wendy Lippard, Lara Gravelly and Steve McConnell, who together form the Band Geebs, won second place in the

ed division of the Bedrace Wednesday in the Pit. The event was sponsored by the Senior Class Philanthropy Committee.

Barbour settles grievance at Step 3

By Cathy Oberle
Staff Writer

UNC dentistry school employee Martha Barbour reached a settlement Friday at Step 3 in her sexual harassment grievance against the University and James Bader that included the creation of a human relations committee in

the school.

Barbour, manager of the dental ecology department, alleged in the grievance that Bader, a research associate professor in the UNC School of Dentistry, had harassed her frequently with rude comments for a period of five years.

Bader could not be reached for com-

ment Wednesday.

Barbour said Bader's actions would be documented and a final written warning placed in his file as part of the settlement.

Bader will not be allowed to move his office back into the dentistry school, Barbour said. Bader's office was moved from the school in October because of

the grievance.

The settlement with the University includes the formation of a dentistry school human relations committee, on which Barbour will serve, she said. "It will deal with these kinds of problems and it will be there to educate," she

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Congress votes to keep paying student stipends

By Jennifer Mueller
Staff Writer

Student Congress voted Wednesday night to continue funding stipends for key student positions.

An act to eliminate stipends was introduced by Andrew Cohen, Dist. 6, who said the student fees going toward stipends did not benefit the whole student body.

"We're not contracting with somebody, we're asking somebody to give of their time voluntarily," Cohen said. Impoverished students who most need a stipend would not be likely to seek an elected position because they would be too busy working and keeping up their grades, he said.

"These positions should be filled by people who care about what they do, not the money they'll be getting," he said.

Speaker of Congress Tim Moore said stipends were paid to the student body president, congress speaker, BSM president, student body treasurer, Supreme Court chief justice and CAA president.

Finance Committee Chairman Daryl Grissom said stipends should be paid because the recipients were required to stay on campus over the

summer, and the stipend was intended to cover their living expenses and tuition during that period.

"We're asking them to give up opportunities that will make the rest of their life — opportunities in their job field — for free," he said. "Without stipends, we cannot ask, much less expect, people to fill these positions." Elliott Zenick, Dist. 17, said that the stipends did benefit the student body because they went to elected student officials.

Mark Shelburne, Dist. 19, said that there might be a need for stipends in the future and encouraged congress members not to eliminate budgeting options.

Jennifer Lloyd, Dist. 12, said there should be compensation for elected students who must remain on campus over the summer. This compensation would be given for proven expenses and would not be a predetermined amount.

The bill was defeated 8-17.

Congress voted 16-10 to table a bill calling for the elimination of campaign subsidies. This bill was also introduced by Cohen. Presently, SBP candidates are compensated for half

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Residents say they didn't know of power lines

By Amber Nimocks
Staff Writer

Residents of a neighborhood southwest of the UNC campus have expressed concerns that they were not informed about University power lines that emit potentially harmful electromagnetic waves being installed near their homes.

Pauline Grimson, of 407 Ransom St., submitted a petition to the Chapel Hill Town Council Monday night signed by 67 area residents.

According to the petition, the University has plans to install a new power line beneath Ransom Street and Briarbridge Lane. Residents are concerned that the University consulted only with the town engineer and the department of public works, and not with residents of the area.

"All the University had to do was go to the town," Grimson said Wednesday.

"Plans weren't revealed until April 11 at the neighborhood meeting. ... This clearly affects our neighborhood. Any project like this should involve the people who will be affected by it."

Don McChesney, of 205 Vance St., said: "All we are questioning is the city procedure for approval. ... City procedure should at least acknowledge people who live here."

James Mergner, UNC associate director for utilities operations, said the University was adding power lines to serve the new buildings on South Campus. The development includes an ambulatory care center, a medical research complex and a proposed Environmental Protection Agency complex. Work began on the Ambulatory Care Center in July 1990, and the groundbreaking for the research facility took place several weeks ago.

The town received approval for the

projects from the N.C. General Assembly in 1988, Mergner said.

"We knew in 1990 that we were going to be doing the construction," Mergner said. "In pre-design meetings we invited members of the town and local utilities. The town staff was involved in coordinating design. ... Town residents were not informed individually."

The University did not discuss the effects of electromagnetic fields with the designer because of the small amount of current in the system, Mergner said.

"Normal procedure is not to specifically consider electromagnetic effects in a 15-kilovolt system," Mergner said, referring to the lines that will be laid in the area. "Systems with 69 kilovolts or more are normally considered (a concern) in design."

"We expect minimal effects because it is a 15-kilovolt system and it is in-

stalled underground in a concrete-encased conduit."

Horst Kessemeier, UNC associate professor of physics and astronomy, said people must consider the long-term effects when dealing with electromagnetic fields.

Some studies have concluded that electromagnetic fields increase the instances of cancer in children, Kessemeier said.

"Since all our nerve action is done by small electromagnetic currents, (electromagnetic fields) have some effect," he said. "Whether it is detrimental or not is unknown."

Design standards such as the ones for the University's construction are based on inconclusive information, Kessemeier said.

"I don't put much stock in their standards," he said. "They could be revised tomorrow."

Graduate students hang sign from New East windows to protest budget cuts

By Stephanie Johnston
University Editor

Graduate students in the city and regional planning department want University officials to know how they feel about the effects of budget cuts on their department.

They hung a sign stating, "We Need Site Planning and G.I.S." from second-floor windows of New East, where the

department is located. The sign referred to the elimination of nine courses in the department, including site planning and geographical information systems. The nine courses are taught by guest lecturers, often people in the community.

"If administrators are unable to make the case, if faculty are unable to make the case, the students have to," said Michael Stegman, chairman of the department.

The courses were eliminated when the department's funds for financial aid and guest lecturers were cut in half due to state budget cuts, he said. The faculty decided to eliminate the classes instead of cutting the graduate student aid.

"That meant we literally had to cancel every one of the courses that involved outside people," he said.

Jillian Detweiler, a student in the department's master's program, said she

and other students hung the sign Wednesday morning. Without the canceled classes, students will not be as prepared to enter the professional world, she said.

"We're not attacking the leadership of our department," Detweiler said. "We are saying to our University we are upset about this."

"The programs that are slated to be cut represent a huge degradation of this

planning program that is supposed to be one of the best in the nation," she said. Stegman said the courses that would be eliminated were in some of the department's specialty areas.

"Employers expect them to have these skills," he said. "Essentially we're sacrificing the quality of our graduating class to protect the quality of our incoming classes."

The department is hoping to have the

money restored before the fall semester starts, he said. They decided to cancel the classes instead of graduate aid because the classes could be rescheduled, but graduate students likely would attend other schools if dismissed.

Stegman said the restoration of funds depended on "if sanity reigns."

Detweiler said the department's graduates staffed most of the planning programs in the state.

California student fees rise sharply as state struggles with \$12 billion deficit

Editor's note: This is the fourth segment of a five-part series examining the effects of state budget cuts on higher education across the United States

By Wendy Bounds
State and National Editor

After eight years of holding their own in the state budget struggle, California higher education systems are about to "pay the piper."

A \$12 billion piper. Although tuition is free in this West Coast public system, education itself isn't, and student fees are on the rise as California struggles to escape from its overwhelming \$12 billion state deficit.

"We are still in the process of figuring out how severe it will be," said Jesus Mena, public information officer for the University of California at Berkeley. "Overall, the state is in very dire straights."

Bearing the largest brunt of education cuts are the nine-campus University of California system (UC) and the 19-campus California State University system (CSU). UC in-state students at schools such as UC-Los Angeles and



Education

UC-Berkeley will face a \$650 increase next year in their student fees.

And they're not happy. At UC-Irvine, several phones were set up outside the student center for students to telephone their legislators with complaints or suggestions about the budget cuts. Fraternities and sororities there are launching a massive postcard-writing campaign voicing similar concerns to their assemblymen.

UC-Riverside students participated in a campuswide class walk-out last Friday in which about 70 percent of them didn't attend class to symbolize the detrimental effect the fee increase could have upon the schools.

"You're looking at a stringent time for us," said Paul West, spokesman for

the UC-system president. "After about eight good years, it's about time for us to pay the piper."

Apparently, although California higher education didn't have money to waste during the past decade, universities and colleges never battled with a monstrous budget like this year's.

"In general, it's true we have progressed all right over the past year," Mena said. "Now this deficit is phenomenal, and the governor walked in at a particularly bad time economically."

These economic hardships will fall hardest upon the lower- and middle-income students who will be forced to drop out of school because of the fee increases, said Jeff Chang, legislative advocate for the CSU system.

CSU, in fact, will be hit harder than the UC system because 80 percent of CSU funding comes from the state, Chang said. This will leave the poorer students who attend CSU searching for work because they can't afford to stay in school, he said.

"A lot of folks are getting pushed out into a void," Chang said. "The long-term effect is going to deplete the workforce needed to drive the Califor-

"There is this myth that we are the 'Golden State' ... The myth is getting exposed for the fallacy it is."

Jeff Chang
Legislative Advocate,
CSU system

nia economy.

"There is this myth that we are the 'Golden State' and are able to weather any economic downturns ... The myth is getting exposed for the fallacy it is."

The students and university officials recognize times are tough all across the state. While mourning their own budget cuts, they say the "universities must take their licks like everyone else."

"It's difficult for us to say we've been singled out," said Lee Butterfield,

executive director for the University of California Student Association. "We haven't been hit harder than welfare or the prison systems. The governor can't exactly take money away from the hospitals and give it to us."

This accommodating attitude is a far cry from that echoing 3000 miles away in New York state where students at public colleges seized control of campus buildings last week, halting any type of normal academic activity.

"I wish I could say we were barricading doors like CUNY (City University of New York); that's really cool," Butterfield said. "But we're not. Our goal is to be one voice in a chorus of groups being affected by these cuts."

Some student leaders, however, don't think the CUNY approach would work for California and are opting for less rebellious action like letter-writing and rallying.

"We've got a little different situation," Chang said. "If we use those tactics we may close off a lot of people more quickly than we would like."

"We have a situation where every-

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WEATHER

TODAY: Mostly sunny; high mid-70s
FRIDAY: P.M. clouds; high in 70s

ON CAMPUS

SBP Matt Heyd will discuss Gov. Martin budget meeting, Pass/Fail and Davis statues in the Pit at 12:15 p.m.

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Any fool can make a rule. — Henry David Thoreau