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The Carolina Gay & Lesbian Association Newsletter

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CGLA FUNDING SECURE

On Sunday, April 17, the UNC Student Congress voted 5-16-2 to fund the Carolina Gay & Lesbian Association (CGLA) with \$1,779 in student fees. Although this represents a \$345 cut in the CGLA's overall budget request and a \$298 decrease in the student fees portion from last year, the cuts were due mainly to fiscal concerns rather than homophobic attitudes, as has been the case in years past.

Because of a shortage in student fees money, the Congress had to cut the requests of almost every single group, not just the CGLA. There were \$350,000 in budget requests from 34 student groups but only \$183,000 available to allocate. The money shortage was due mainly to the defeat of a student referendum in February to increase student fees by \$1.25 per semester.

CGLA's allocation was also \$124 higher than the recommendation of the Finance Committee, reflecting a reinstatement of CGLA's desire to have Lambda collated. CGLA was one of only eight groups to receive higher allocations than the Finance Committee recommendation. Four groups were also entirely defunded.

CGLA's original request from Student Congress was \$2,474, or 57% of the proposed budget of \$4,324. The actual allocation of \$1,779 is 44% of the approved budget of \$3,979.

The primary cuts in CGLA's budget came in a reduction of the speakers fees request and an increase in the CGLA's burden of fundraising and selling Lambda subscriptions.

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JEFF LEVI HIGHLIGHTS AWARENESS WEEK

The Eleventh Annual Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week (and a half) at UNC was a huge success with twenty one co-sponsors, an extraordinarily high turnout, two nationally-recognized speakers, and an AIDS benefit dance. Here are some of the highlights of the week:

On Saturday, March 26, the AIDS Benefit Dance was co-sponsored by the UNITAS program and the Association of International Students. Despite very bad weather on the night of the dance, CGLA was able to raise \$160, which will go to aid in the purchase of a boarding house for persons with AIDS (PWA's) in the Triangle area. Over \$20,000 has been raised so far for this project by local artists and AIDS activists.

Ben Shatz, director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of the National Gay Rights Advocates, spoke on March 28 at the Law

School as part of their program on AIDS & Law, presented in conjunction and cooperation with Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week. Shatz spoke on the "three P's" of AIDS: panic, profit, & politics.

Lightning Brown, a law student and long-time local gay activist, was instrumental in bringing Shatz to Carolina as well as being one of the coordinators for the AIDS & Law program.

On Wednesday, March 30, a discussion on lesbian invisibility was led by Mandy Carter of Triangle Area Lesbian Feminists and Lynn Hudson of the UNC Women's Studies Program. Several thought-provoking questions were asked by the crowd of about 30, including a healthy discussion on separatism issues in the women's community.

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