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## State shortfall will lead to rising tuition bills

HEATHER GRADY  
NEWS EDITOR

It seems inevitable that students will be shelling out even more money for a UNCW education this year. The only question that remains is how much more?

Due to what some administrators are calling the worst budgetary situation ever to hit campus, the exact dollar figure students can expect on their second tuition bill is only speculation for now.

House and Senate legislators are currently torn on how to accumulate funding to cover the state's \$853 million shortfall. Many individuals expect the session to drag into October, though some feel it could be resolved as early as the end of August.

"One of the biggest problems with the legislature still being in session at the beginning of school is that we still don't know what the tuition bill

## BUDGET CUTS



Illustration by Gabe Hamlin

Students can expect another tuition bill from UNCW once the House and Senate plans have reached resolution.

will be when everything is said and done," said Mark Lanier, special assistant to the chancellor.

However, both plans will hit students' wallets fairly hard.

"In either plan, though, tuition increases are significant as proposed by the legislature, and they don't result in new money for the university. It's just replacement [money]," Lanier

said. A large piece of the financial burden then falls to students to make up in tuition and fees some of the operating monies lost by the university due to the state's shortfall and lack of financial support this year.

The Senate plan calls for a tuition raise of about \$25 million for students across the state, with increases spread evenly on in-state and out-of-state students at about 12 percent.

To the contrary, the House plan calls for out-of-state students to bear the entire weight of the hike. This could add about an extra \$2,000 for out-of-state students if the plan is adopted.

"The downside here, with regard to tuition and fees, is that the approach the legislature is taking so far this year is to increase tuition substantially beyond what was requested by the university," Lanier said.

The Board of Governors appointed  
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## Saunter on the Sea



June Four The Seaboard

Sailboats often fill the Intracoastal waterway near the Wrightsville Beach bridge during the busy summer months.

## Bookstore privatization possible

WES MELVILLE  
STAFF WRITER

As UNCW positions itself for tackling an ambitious university union expansion program, new and improved ways of raising more money for the project are being sought. Over the summer, senior administration officials put together a contract for outsourcing the campus bookstore. Currently, the Request for Proposals (RFP) is out, and private companies now have the chance to study the contract.

What this means is that the chancellor and other officials are considering the idea of selling the university-operated bookstore to a private firm. They are interested in knowing

whether privatizing the bookstore could reap larger financial benefits than the current operation.

"UNCW is interested in finding out if there is anything to be gained potentially from contracting out our bookstore, and the only way to really know that is to receive proposals from various companies," said Dick Scott, vice chancellor for business affairs and the university's spokesman for the bookstore RFP.

Part of the union expansion project includes plans for building a new bookstore, he said.

"We are contemplating the idea of moving the new bookstore in conjunction with the

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