

Students unite to aid tsunami victims

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NEWS EDITOR

The Inter-Organization Council met Monday night to discuss the tsunami relief efforts that will be implemented by community and campus-based organizations and to organize a tsunami task force.

Michael LeClair, Student Government Vice President, called the meeting to order asking organization representatives how they can work together to gain funds for the tsunami cause.

Lynetta Karlson, President of Student Social Work offered an idea that would affiliate students with the American Red Cross.

Karlson's plan involves organizing campus organizations that will place 150 donation cans around campus.

"This disaster is so hard because relief is not tangible, it's a cash infusion which is not as fun for students as sending clothes or food," Karlson said.

Karlson explains that the donation cans are only a first response effort, and that relief efforts must be continuous as full recovery from the tsunami could take a decade.

Other organization representatives offered ideas about fund raising. Proceeds from campus based concerts, dances and dodge ball tournaments were among some of the funds

suggested to donate.

Other ideas discussed were that of an ongoing disaster relief fund organized by the Student Government Association. This type of fund could provide donation money immediately for victims of future disasters.

"We need to get the ball moving quickly," said LeClair. "We have to do something soon before people start losing energy."

A tsunami task force was organized and meetings are scheduled to begin next week in order to begin planning tsunami relief events in the upcoming weeks.



Lynetta Karlson, the President of Student Social Work, proposes her idea on how to raise a relief fund for the people affected by the tsunami.

from TUTION HIKE page 1

The Board of Governors plans to make a decision about the issue of tuition increases sometime in March.

Not only students, but UNCW faculty alike, have expressed distaste for the tuition increases. Dr. Daniel Noland, professor of English and President of the Faculty Senate, spoke out against tuition increases.

"I'm sad to say that if we were politically astute, we faculty would be loudly and publicly denouncing campus-based tuition increases, especially those tied to pay raises, especially those for faculty pay raises. By not doing so, we tacitly support commercial ideology in the heart of our institution, we permit the legislature to duck its responsibility, and we reinforce the (erroneous, I hope) perception that we are under-worked, self-absorbed and self-satisfied," Noland said.

Wynne urged student participation in the issue.

"We will be having a Student's Day at the Capitol in Raleigh in February and we would love to have a large group of students going up to meet with their hometown legislators," Wynne said.

Wynne strongly urges students to voice their opinions to the Board of Trustees. Any student interested in addressing the board on this issue can contact the assistant secretaries to the board at lanierm@uncw.

from RELAY page 1

Bar-Zeev knows about cancer survivorship from first-hand experience. His wife, Ruth, is a cancer survivor. Among the 3,600 people walking last year, there were 750 cancer survivors. The event hosts a Team Walk, a Survivor Walk and a Children's Walk, which had 320 youngsters last year.

The emotions and comradeship of those taking part are dramatized by thousands of luminaries, candles lighting the way for the walkers: "It is a very stirring and beautiful thing to see," Bar-Zeev said.

UNCW senior Melissa Pojasek was one of the 35 students from Phi Sigma Pi taking part in last year's relay. She said they'll be there this year and they expect to take top honors again.

"Winning is going to be a tradition with us," Pojasek said. "We're hoping for 'Most Spirited' again."

The English major said many of the Phi Sigma Pi members stayed overnight at the event. "We didn't have a tent," Pojasek explained. "We had folding chairs and we took turns walking around the track or sitting in the chairs."

Kay Pugh, from the Financial Aid Department's Money Runners is her team co-chair. "We'll be there walking, raising money and competing," she said, adding how proud the financiers were to have taken "Best Team Theme" and "Best Decorated Campsite" awards last year. Pugh said they pitched a tent and many of the team stayed all night. "I stayed until about 4 a.m."

In addition to the relay, Pugh and her co-chair Judy Carter also knit scarves, which are on display at the office and sell for \$15 each. "We have a variety of fundraisers throughout the year," Pugh said. "It's a lot of work, but we love doing it." She said the financial aid department, student accounts and the accounting department raised \$1900 last year.


The staff in the registrar's office is selling beaded bracelets for \$6 each. "We've raised \$500," said Kimberly Goerne, registrar team co-chair. She said she enjoys playing a part in the fundraising and the event itself is a wonderful experience. "The comradeship of the survivors is awe inspiring," Goerne said. "And when they light the luminaries, you really feel it is a celebration of life."

Helen Rice, of the housing and residence department, is the person the students should contact if they want to be involved in the fundraiser. "I've been involved for a few years," Rice, herself a cancer survivor, said. "I'm trying to get as many student teams as possible involved. I enjoy it and I think it's good for students to see what a good time they can have for a good cause," Rice said.

There will be a kick-off meeting and pizza party at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday January 19 in the Warwick Center. Students interested in joining the Relay for Life should contact Helen Rice at 962-3613; while faculty should contact Diane Jones at 962-3822.

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