

Methodist College Spending on a Tight Budget

By Elizabeth Tankersley
Staff Writer

Methodist College is currently running on a year-to-year budget with revenue primarily drawn from tuition, room and board, and various fees from students. 95% of Methodist's operating budget is drawn from these costs.

The current lack of endowment base, that is the money contributed by outside donors to help support the college and used to supplement costs of operations, is due in part to the fact that Methodist is a very young school in comparison to most major universities with large endowment bases. At this point in Methodist's young college life a very small fraction of our operating budget is provided by donations, investments, or any other kinds of building capital.

This year Methodist had the most number of students enrolled, up

almost 30 from the past year, and now the administration is having to make cuts to the budget to keep the college rolling into the next year. Dean of Students George Blanc said, "Currently Methodist is much like a young couple on a budget, spending almost all of what they make to survive, who can't save readily and are thus limited in the amount of large purchases they can make."

Although Methodist operates almost completely on the revenue generated from student fees Dean Blanc said that there were other means for making the college's endowment base grow. "In order to grow significantly under the current state of affairs Methodist needs to: (1) obtain a large endowment contribution, (2) capital or comprehensive campaigns run by the administration

to encourage donors to participate in order to achieve specific financial goals, and (3) take out bank loans to borrow money for future building endeavors."

Currently Methodist College is trying to raise \$11 million by running a specific fund raising campaign to build an annex onto the science building. This money will also help to build an indoor intramural facility on campus, and a portion of the money will be used to increase MC's endowment base.

At present Methodist is at the limit it can borrow from banks for building projects. Due to this Cape Fear Commons III has been put on hold to wait and see if an independent contractor will finance the construction of the building. After the Commons Phase III is done it will

be used as regular housing for students, but rather than all of the money going to the college for room fees, a portion of it will go to the contractor as a form of payment.

Dean Blanc states that, "There will be NO student or academic programs cut in any way. Primarily the reallocations and cuts to the budget will be brought about by improving efficiency in the operations of the school. Also being restructured are the maintenance and personnel structures."

There are currently no plans to cut any athletic programs on campus either. However, all sports teams will be asked to monitor more closely their own spending and to better plan away trips so that more than one team may travel together in a larger vehicle to cut back costs.

Police and Public Safety Police and Security Officers of the Year, 2003

Contributing Writer

Each year, the Methodist College Police and Public Safety Department recognizes a Police Officer and a Security Officer for outstanding service to our community.

For our Police Department, Corporal Steve Haire has received the award of Methodist College Police Officer of the Year in recognition his commitment to



Corporal Steve Haire

service. Throughout the course of the last year, Cpl. Haire has consistently proven to be self-motivated and dependable in his multiple roles of shift leader, training officer and senior police officer with this department. Cpl. Haire frequently works extra hours and sacrifices his own plans in order to maintain the 24-hour, full-staff requirement of the Police Department.

His dedication to service and commitment to this police agency has truly made him an indispensable asset to this department.

From our Public Safety Department, Security Officer John Dunlap has been recognized for his outstanding performance. Off. Dunlap daily demonstrates dedication and knowledge of our community. His pleasant



Security Officer John Dunlap

attitude and work performance made him the easy choice to represent our Security personnel. Always willing to pass on a friendly smile or a kind word, Off. Dunlap has repeatedly proven himself a reliable security officer and our number one choice for Security Officer of the year.