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Faculty Debates Salary Reform

At a Thursday forum, professors voiced concern about salary inequities.

BY MOLLY FELMET
STAFF WRITER

Faculty members expressed their views on a proposed set of principles governing the faculty's role in salary and budget decisions at a forum hosted by the N.C. chapter of the American Association of University Professors Thursday afternoon.

The newly proposed principles call for a clear and open policy for salary allocation and procedures for faculty to make suggestions about salaries at three different levels: the department level, the school level and the pan-university level.

The principles state that each faculty unit must have a clear policy for salary decisions and the policies must be subject to regular review by the faculty members within the unit.

Audrey Johnson, an associate professor in the School of Social Work, voiced concern Thursday that although the proposal included a way to review policy, there was no mechanism for addressing individual complaints that the policy did not work.



Jane Brown and James Peacock discuss the process of determining faculty salaries Thursday in the Wilson Library Assembly Room. Many faculty members feel departments should be more open as to how salaries are allocated.

Jurors Hear Suspect's Confession to Shooting

BY WENDY GOODMAN
CITY EDITOR
AND LAURA GODWIN
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

HILLSBOROUGH—Jurors in the trial of double-murder suspect Wendell Williamson heard his reasons for the Jan. 26 shooting spree from an audio taped statement he made to police officers at the hospital on the night of the murders.

Family members of the victims bowed their heads as they listened to Williamson's statement in which he emphatically spoke about the events leading up to the shooting and the shooting itself.

"I killed two people, that should be sufficient," Williamson said in the taped statement. "I felt like I needed to do it. I wanted people to acknowledge I am a telepath."

Williamson told the police he stole the rifle from his father, walked down the street the night before the shootings and decided he had to do it because people were mocking him. Williamson also explained he did not shoot everyone he saw that Thursday afternoon.

"I walked passed a couple of people, but I didn't feel like shooting them," Williamson said. He then explained in a

matter-of-fact tone who he shot and why. "I could have seen him (either of his victims) two weeks ago in his car, and he could have easily started turning my left shoulder around," which was one way Williamson believed people were trying to harm him.

At the end of the interview, Williamson was asked if he was sorry for what he did. He very quickly and sternly replied, "no."

Dr. James Bellard, a psychiatrist in private practice, interviewed Williamson at Central Prison on Feb. 1. Bellard said that by talking with Williamson so soon after the shootings he could get "a more accurate representation about (Williamson's) state of mind at the time of the crime."

At the time of the shootings, Williamson was very delusional and intent in his belief that he was a telepath and people just refused to admit it, Bellard said.

"He took it on himself to prove to the world his telepathic powers," Bellard testified. "He believed that if he didn't do something to prove that he was a telepath that something terrible was going to happen to the whole world."

Bellard said Williamson believed men, in particular, were harming him and his

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Student Aid Bill Moves to Conference

The Senate passed a proposal to cut \$4.7 billion from federal student aid.

BY ROBYN TOMLIN HACKLEY
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

In an about-face, the Republican-dominated Senate voted unanimously Friday to approve a revised budget that reduces the amount of cuts to the student aid program by \$4.7 billion, instead of the \$10.2 billion in cuts previously approved by the House.

This moves the bill from the Senate to a joint reconciliation conference committee which will be responsible for proposing a compromise to be voted on by the entire Congress. Aides in both houses say the conference should have a final proposal before Thanksgiving.

The Senate voted to strike three of the five controversial House bill provisions that would have impacted college students directly. The final version of the Senate bill was passed without the 0.85 percent loan volume tax and the increase in the PLUS (parent) loan interest rates, but at the same time reinstating the six-month interest-free grace period after graduation, all of which were cut in the House bill.

The changes to the original proposal were brought to the floor by Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee Chairwoman Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan.

Kassebaum stated in a press release, "The savings in my plan come primarily from lenders and guarantee agencies. Other savings are found by capping the Direct Lending program at 20 percent, an appropriate level for a demonstration project."

Education Secretary Richard Riley was supportive of the final Senate plan, but continued to be critical of the 20 percent cap on direct lending. Riley released a

House vs. Senate on Student Aid Cuts

The House and Senate have each passed budget bills which must now be reconciled in conference. These are the specific differences in the two bills.

Proposed cut or fee	House bill cuts	Senate bill cuts
Cuts or fees which fall on students:		
Student loan volume tax of 0.85 percent	N/A	Eliminated
Eliminate interest-free six-month grace period after graduation	\$3.75 billion	Eliminated
Increase PLUS (parent) loan interest rates and raise interest rate cap	\$890 million	Eliminated
Termination/Capping of direct lending	eliminated \$855 million	capped at 20 percent
Cut administrative budget and oversight of both direct and guaranteed loan programs	\$1.63 billion	\$1.54 billion
Total cost imposed upon loan industry	\$1.66 billion	\$1.50 billion
Total cuts imposed upon students	\$7.13 billion	\$2.14 billion
Total student loan program cuts	\$10.21 billion	\$4.70 billion

SOURCE: CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

statement saying, "(The Senate) acted only after a storm of protest shamed Senators into taking the right course. Unfortunately, these voices of reason were drowned out by the special interests when it came to Direct Lending."

The Direct Lending program cap, which has drawn considerable criticism from President Clinton, would cut in half the number of schools whose students could borrow directly from the federal government, rather than from banks.

Currently, UNC does not participate in the direct lending program, but according to an aide in Sen. Edward Kennedy's office, approximately 40 percent of all U.S.

colleges and universities do.

In addition to the direct lending cap, the Senate voted to retain the provisions in the House bill, which cuts the administrative budget and oversight funds for director lending, the Stafford and the PLUS loan programs.

Kristi Kimball, an aide on Kennedy's education staff, said this cut would reduce the discretionary administrative budget by more than three-fourths, making the program impossible to run.

The changes to the bill came only after months of lobbying efforts by students

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Doris Betts, a creative writing professor, jokes around with one of her students. She has published 10 books and has one in the works.

MAKING A MARK

Using a distinctive approach to teaching, Professor Doris Betts inspires students with her "unconventional" life, and provides

A Spark of Creativity

BY OLIVIA PAGE
STAFF WRITER

Doris Betts published her first book while a sophomore at UNC-Greensboro. She lives and writes in the South, yet she vehemently rejects the label of "Southern Writer."

She has been teaching creative writing at UNC since 1966, but she holds no earned college degree.

"Unconventional" is certainly a word which fits her well.

Betts has published 10 books to date, has one at the printer's and yet another one in the works. One of her books, "The Ugliest Pilgrim," has been made into a movie, "Violet," (named for the

main character) which won an Academy Award.

Betts writes stories about the ordinary and the average, the normalcy of daily life. Most of her stories deal with society, families and contemporary life and are set in the South.

"I write mostly about blue-collar workers," Betts said. "I write the stories of ordinary people and how they are significant. My last book, 'Souls Raised from the Dead,' is all about sickness and death. I said after I finished that book that I wasn't going to write about anything but love and sex from now on."

Betts said once she completed a novel, she never reopened it for fear

that she would discover numerous things she could have done differently. However, her favorite work to date is "Souls Raised from the Dead."

"But my best book is always the next one," she said. "The truly great book is unattainable. If I ever thought that I'd done what I set out to do, then I'd quit."

The idea of reaching that unattainable goal keeps Betts producing books at a rather constant rate. However, she candidly admits that "it takes longer to make a book than have a baby."

In addition to the demands she places on herself to write consistently, Betts spends a great deal of her time helping some of tomorrow's authors polish their

See Betts, Page 5

Facing disturbingly low proficiency test scores of black students in Chapel Hill and Carrboro, Board of Education candidates are conducting

Quests for a Cure

School Board Candidates Probe the Problem: Low Minority Test Scores



Louise Cole — "If the students from one cultural group are failing, then the entire school system is flawed."



Kevin Cook — "That's the key — letting the teachers get to the students and not ramming curriculum down their throats."



Peter Morcombe — "[Schools] are full of excuses. We don't have enough money. Kids watch too much TV and parents let them. Not enough parental involvement. Stop making excuses."



Harvey Goldstein — "I think a lot of parents of African-American children have lost faith with the schools, administrators, teachers."



Elizabeth M. Carter — "We need to show them that black males are expected to be successful... We need more black females in the schools, but we especially need more black males."



Matthew Barton — "We need more attention paid in the lower grades to encourage women and minorities to get into math and the sciences."



Bea Hughes-Warner — "Low minority achievement on tests) is probably the thing that worries me the most about the school district."



Ken Touw — "Our students have the capacity to overcome that. Our schools can provide the motivation and teaching to overcome that. But it's going to take the cooperation of the community as well."



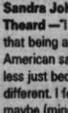
Sara Salama Williams — "It's not a race thing. There are low-income white children not performing well, as well."



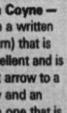
Bill Elstran — "(The Board of Education) went two years without funding (the task force studying minority test scores), and now all of a sudden it's an election year and they've found the money."



Nicholas M. Didow — "This is a continuance of the community's decision some 12 years ago that this disparity is unacceptable, and we're going to get it resolved."



Sandra Johnson Theard — "I don't see that being an African-American says you're less just because you're different. I feel that maybe (minority students) are not being counseled right."



Rebecca Coyne — "We have a written (curriculum) that is quite excellent and is a straight arrow to a university and an unwritten one that is simpler and makes it easier to protect the self-esteem of the student."

BY JULIE CORBIN
STAFF WRITER

Acknowledging that chronically low minority test scores are a significant problem within Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, candidates for the Board of Education say the search for solutions is a central issue in the Nov. 7 municipal election.

"Two-thirds of one population is not passing proficiency tests," said school board candidate Sandra Johnson Theard. "There's a serious problem." Some blame socio-economic inequality for differences in achievement and propose that schools increase the attention given to at-risk students and provide support to them and their families.

Other candidates think the disparity points to system-wide ailments and say complete renovation of the way public schools are run is necessary.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ELECTIONS

Don't Know Who Vote for? Pick up a copy of the DTH's Elections Guide, available at the DTH office and area restaurants. It gives a comprehensive look at the issues and the candidates.

Free Speech: A Columbia University student column attacking Jews has sparked debate about free speech and where the press should draw the line.
State & National News, Page 7

Going Hi-Tech: Chancellor Hooker says UNC must prepare for the information-based economy.
University News, Page 3



It's Hoops Time: Look for the insert of Basketball '95-'96, the DTH special section previewing the UNC men's and women's basketball teams as well as the rest of the ACC. It has special articles on Coach Dean Smith, Dante Calabria, Jeff McInnis, Tracy Reid and the freshmen.

Weather

TODAY: Rain; high upper 70s.
SATURDAY: Partly sunny; high lower 60s.
SUNDAY: Partly sunny; high lower 60s.

Calvin Coolidge didn't say much, and when he did he didn't say much.

Will Rogers