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Leaders try to alleviate tuition stress

■ Student leaders want to find out how many students need financial assistance.

BY CYNTHIA EAKES
STAFF WRITER

Student leaders are working on a proposal for Chancellor Michael Hooker to provide financial assistance to out-of-state students burdened with the recent retroactive tuition increase.

The N.C. General Assembly passed a 3 percent, or \$42 increase for in-state students, and a 5 percent, or \$496 increase for out-of-state students last week.

The bills for this semester will go out Sept. 10, and will be due around Oct. 18.

Eleanor Morris, director of the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, said students had already started to come in and inquire about their loan and financial aid status.

"There is no more scholarship money left," Morris said. "We have developed a simple form for students to find out if they are still eligible for loans, though."

Katherine Kraft, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, and Student Body President Mo Nathan are trying to prevent students from withdrawing from the University because of a lack of funds.

Kraft said, "What I am speculating is some financial aid set aside that the financial aid office could rely on for students who have maxed out their loans, or who have new need."

Kraft and Nathan are trying to find out how many students need assistance and who these students are.

"I can't accept the fact that a student already enrolled and taking classes at the University will have to withdraw because of a retroactive tuition increase," Nathan said.

When asked where the money would come from, Nathan said, "That's the \$500 question, isn't it?"

Nathan said once he and Kraft gain a commitment from University officials, finding money would not be a problem.

Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd's assistant Liz Lucas said Floyd was unaware of the proposal. Provost Richard Richardson also said he was unaware of the proposal, and Hooker could not be reached for comment.

Many students said they are pleased with the proposal.

Quintess Leslie, a sophomore from Macon, Ga., said, "I imagine the increase is a burden on many out-of-state students who have to budget their money for the year, and any proposal that will help us will be welcome and

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UNDER THE SEA



Scuba diving instructor Pierre Morell (center) teaches his physical education class the basics in underwater diving. One of the day's lessons included how to use the mouthpiece.

Board will examine off-campus housing

BY AMY CAPPIELLO
CITY EDITOR

While the University strives to deal with the problems of students living on campus, student government wants to help those students living outside the campus' borders.

Kristina Morris, co-chairwoman for the External Relations Committee, has been working on an idea for a housing board that Student Body President Mo Nathan had in his platform last year.

"Mo wanted to have a concise idea of all the housing options available off campus," she said. "I

wanted to expand it, to begin to deal with the problems off-campus students face — landlord problems, parking and transportation problems."

The board is still in its planning stages, but Morris said she would like it to affect Chapel Hill's policies on issues relevant to UNC off-campus students.

In order to find out what issues are most pertinent, Morris plans to survey off-campus students.

Right now, she is trying to figure out how the board itself will be organized as either all students or a mix of students and town officials.

"I personally want it to be student-based, as an advisory council run by students," she said.

Morris said she believed a student-board would be more beneficial because it would provide a forum for them to air their problems to people who could best present them to the town.

"I see it as a better format to figure

SEE HOUSING BOARD, PAGE 2

1st-floor Teague residents could move in later today

■ Students say they are willing to wait longer for safer rooms in Teague.

BY KELLY ETHERIDGE
STAFF WRITER

Teague Residence Hall residents inconvenienced by the first-floor renovations may finally be able to move into their permanent rooms today.

Assistant Director of University Housing Rebecca Casey said students would be able to move into their rooms on the first floor if the floor passes state inspections, which were scheduled to end early this morning.

"The first floor is now pending state inspection approval," Casey said.

"Following those inspections, we will receive a list of discrepancies, if any. If there are any, those discrepancies would need to be corrected before the floor can be opened for residents."

"Of course we are hoping for the best."

Many students in Teague said they are skeptical.

"I would love for (the first floor) to open (Wednesday)," said Elizabeth Huie, a junior from Lewisville.

"But, we've been told so many things before that it won't surprise me if it doesn't open (Wednesday)."

Many students in Teague said they felt they have been given the runaround. "I've moved a total of three times,"

said Jemi Johnson, a junior from Concord.

When Johnson first got to school, she was informed that her room on the first floor of Teague was not ready and she would have to live in temporary housing in Aycock Residence Hall.

After spending one night in Aycock, Johnson was moved to a temporary room on the third floor of Teague. She then moved to a different room on the third floor a few days later.

When Johnson finally moves to her permanent room on the first floor, it will be her fourth move of this year.

Although the students said they are anxious to move into their permanent rooms, they said they were willing to wait if it means a more safe environment.

"We want them to get (the construction) done, but we don't want them to rush it so much that it's poorly done either," Johnson said.

Stacy Bishop, a sophomore from Asheville, said she had been told different stories, and she thinks the University is trying to cover up other's mistakes.

"I think the campus officials started too many things at one time — Teague, Aycock, Graham, the stadium, Lenoir — everything under construction all at once," Bishop said.

Huie said she is not holding her breath for a room today.

Huie said, "We've been almost three weeks in this temporary situation, and I'm really looking forward to my real room."

Student organizations argue about ongoing 'Ram Road' construction

■ The Young Republicans believe the controversial road is a good investment.

BY KENNY MCGEE
STAFF WRITER

"Hope", the young cherry tree recently planted, uprooted and planted again in the middle of "Ram Road" by students, has sparked controversy between University organizations.

Students affiliated with the Young Democrats and the Student Environmental Action Coalition planted the tree Aug. 26 to protest the building of the road.

The tree was uprooted and moved by the Young Republicans after members passed a resolution just a few days later.

Andrew Pearson, one of the leaders of SEAC, said it was just the first part of the protest.

"This week, we'll have booths set up in the Pit and in the quad enlisting students and gaining interest in our cause," said Pearson.

"We're also sending students to the North Carolina Department of Transportation in Raleigh this Thursday and Friday to sit in on committee meetings to let them know how we feel as students and taxpayers."

In addition to the lobbying in Raleigh, students will make banners and signs in the Pit area Thursday that will

be used in a march down Manning Drive on Friday afternoon.

Mary Furr, secretary of the Young Democrats and a mainstay of the movement, is glad to see students unifying under the cause.

"SEAC and the Young Democrats have done a lot since joining together to protest the 'Ram Road,'" said Furr.

"As time goes on hopefully even more students not affiliated with either club will get involved."

Another organization has gotten involved in the protest, although perhaps not in the manner Furr had hoped.

The Young Republicans had a candlelight vigil of their own in which they moved "Hope" from the construction site.

According to Bill Heeden, vice chairman of the Young Republicans, the gesture was mainly symbolic, and they were merely "moving 'Hope' from harm's way."

Heeden said he believes the road is a worthy investment for taxpayers in that it will service alumni and other patrons of the University.



ANDREW PEARSON said the planting of the cherry tree was just the first part of the "Ram Road" protest.

"I can't see how it's a waste of money when it services the people who have donated so much to the University already."

BILL HEEDEN

Vice chairman of the Young Republicans

"I can't see how it's a waste of money when it services the people who have donated so much to the University already," said Heeden.

"As for students getting involved and having a voice in government, I'm all for that, but I'm sure there's a more worthy cause. The protest seems more like a waste of time."

Although the tree has not held up construction of the road, members of SEAC and the Young Democrats said they are happy with the involvement that they are getting from fellow students.

Furr said she would like to see the Young Republicans get involved, maybe in the form of a formal discussion or debate, but was not sure what they were working towards at the time.

"Hope" is being cared for by construction workers and despite the protest and Heeden said there are no plans at this time for an ending or even delay to construction, according to Department of Transportation officials.

Valuable research continues in Department of Chemistry

■ Teaching the approximately 700 chemistry students is still the top priority of the UNC professors.

BY TERESA KILLIAN
STAFF WRITER

When graduate student Bryan King enrolled at UNC in 1990, he had no idea he would help develop a method for making a drug to treat HIV patients.

He has worked with Michael Crimmins, a professor in the Department of Chemistry, since 1995 on a compound that combats the virus.

Crimmins said the drug was in the final phases of testing and is scheduled to be launched next year.

"It is certainly one of the very best treatments that will be available," he said.

Other UNC chemistry research projects are also yielding marketable products such as new plastics, an award-winning environmentally-friendly cleaning liquid and a DNA marker useful for diagnosing diseases.

Not only do consumers profit from the research with better products, but UNC graduate and undergraduate students get hands-on research experience working with the professors.

"It's always nice to show something you are working on is actually important," King said.

He and other chemistry students said they

picked UNC for its location and reputation.

A national research organization ranked UNC's chemistry program 17th out of more than 150 institutions that offer doctoral degrees nationwide, said Malcolm Forbes, a chemistry professor in charge of publicity and alumni development.

The chemistry department has produced a large number of marketable inventions in the past three or four years, said David Winwood, associate director of the Office of Technology Development that receives reports of invention for the entire campus.

Five patents were issued for inventions from UNC's chemistry projects, and 22 were undergoing the patent process during the 1997 fiscal year, Winwood said.

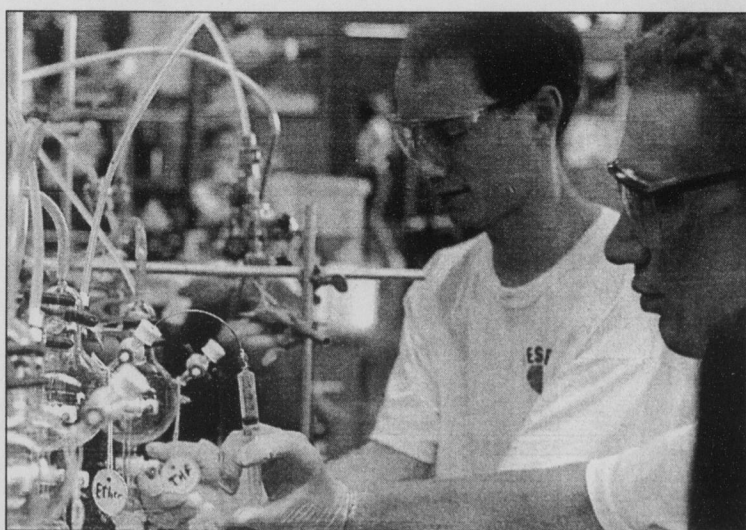
Despite the flurry of research activity, teaching the approximately 700 chemistry students is still the top priority of the chemistry department's faculty.

Chemistry Professor Holden Thorp, who is working on a DNA-marker project, said students get experience and meet professionals in their field when doing the research.

"There has been a lot of chemistry research related to getting some particularly useful product to market rather than basic research recently," Crimmins said.

"It was not a conscious shift in the goal of the research projects, but a slow evolution."

Forbes and some chemistry students said the research sometimes spurs on the department's teaching efforts.



Dave Washburn (right), a fourth-year organic chemistry graduate student, works with senior Wade Downey collecting solvents in Kenan Laboratories.

"All chemistry professors in the department put teaching first," King said.

"That's pretty impressive, if they put research second and it still does as well as it does."

INSIDE

Kinnaird comes to campus



N.C. Sen. Eleanor Kinnaird, D-Orange, recounted legislative hits and misses from her first year in the N.C. General Assembly. Page 2

Move over, bacon ...

New hog farm regulations, while restricting growth, still might help some smaller farming operations. Page 3



Today's weather



Partly cloudy;
mid 80s
Thursday: Sunny;
low 70s

Consistency requires you to be as ignorant today as you were a year ago.

Bernard Berenson