

# FRANK PORTER GRAHAM STUDENT UNION renovation & expansion

The Union Expansion & Renovation plans result from research that began in 1994. That year the students who make up the Union Board of Directors began to look toward the 21st century and evaluate how well the Union meets students needs. After hearing comments and suggestions from other students, it became clear that a renovation and expansion was needed. Here are some of the proposed improvements.

The diagram to your right outlines the present building and a completely new addition. It is planned that this new wing will allow 24-hour access to a computer lab and copy center. It will also provide more meeting space and room for student organizations. Food will be available — bagels, coffee, soup, sandwiches, snacks and beverages.

Renovations will also be made to the existing facility. Construction will be designed to keep the building operational throughout its renovation. Therefore, students will never at any point be completely without a Union nor denied its services.

## WHO USES THE UNION?

- Over 380 student organizations make over 10,000 reservations of meeting space a year
- Over 10,000 people a day enter the Student Union for study space, food, TV, lounges, activities or recreation

## WHAT CHANGES WILL BE MADE?

- New addition built & existing facility enhanced
- 24-hour Computer Lab & Copy Center
- More room for Student Organizations
- More room to relax & socialize
- Enhanced Handicap Accessibility
- Bagels, Sandwiches, Soups & Beverages
- More space (see table below)

|                                   | Today          | Tomorrow              |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Meeting Rooms                     | 9,495 sq. ft.  | 13,251 sq. ft.        |
| Lounges/Lobbies                   | 15,288 sq. ft. | 25,535 sq. ft.        |
| Student Organization Office Space | 37 offices     | 90 offices            |
| <b>TOTAL SPACE INCREASE</b>       |                | <b>35,278 SQ. FT.</b> |

# Picture

It's a really cold and rainy (or snowy) day. Where do you go between classes? To get a bite to eat. To check your email. To meet friends. To work on a group project. To catch up on the soaps. To kick back and relax for a while. Well, judging from the wall-to-wall bodies on such days, the Carolina Union is the place.

Of course, the Union is pretty full pretty much of the time for all the above reasons, even when the weather is fine. And that's the way it ought to be. The Carolina Union belongs to the students and it is intended to serve their needs, whether those needs are for meeting and office space, recreational activities, technological amenities or just a place to crash for a few minutes or hours.

Right now, though, the Union needs to grow, along with

the student body. Each year more students come to Chapel Hill to receive an education. This population increase is felt in all aspects of student life — housing, dining, class registration — and the University does its best to keep up.

Ask yourself, "Is the Union meeting my needs?" If the answer is "Not really," then you must ask yourself what you can do about it. And the answer is: Vote for the renovation and expansion of the building on February 10.

Now the truth is, the renovation will take time, most likely, longer than the current students will be at UNC. It will also entail an increase in student fees. So why should you vote for something that won't benefit you directly? Because your vote now will benefit your younger sisters or brothers, who follow you to Carolina. It might even benefit your children — isn't