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Computer plan unveiled; Hooker hypes advantages

■ Freshmen in 2000 must bring laptop computers when they come to UNC.

BY LAUREN BEAL
STAFF WRITER

Ending two days of speculations and rumors, the University officially announced Thursday that UNC will require all freshmen to own laptop computers starting in the year 2000.

Chancellor Michael Hooker, along with Chief Information Officer Marian Moore and Provost Dick Richardson, unveiled the plan, called the Carolina Computing Initiative.

The CCI is one of several steps Hooker has taken to bring technology to the forefront on campus. The CCI also aims to increase computer access for faculty and staff members.

More than half the freshmen entering now have personal computers. Hooker said the CCI would ensure all students

have equal opportunities and resources. "The program addresses the issue of imbalance between students who have computers and those who don't."

Current students will not directly benefit from the requirement, but officials said they wanted to use student input to aid the program's development.

"One of our next steps will be to convene a student committee to help phase in the program," Moore said.

Hooker said officials hoped for student input through student government. Although the laptop requirement will be directed only at freshmen starting in the year 2000, Hooker and Moore said other students enrolled at the time can purchase a computer.

Officials said they expected to offer several financial plans for incoming students to meet the computer requirement. Options include sales through Student Stores, a four-year, low-interest loan plan and increased financial aid.

"No student will get turned away from Carolina because they couldn't afford a computer," Moore said.

Officials said they hoped to sell the computers at a low price but could not forecast the costs now. A main source of funding for this initiative comes from

the N.C. General Assembly.

Two years ago, there was a \$400 tuition increase for students. At Hooker's request, the N.C. General Assembly matched the increase with \$9 million in enrichment funds.

The University allocated the funds to graduate student health insurance and grants for faculty members, Richardson said. The remaining money, about \$4.6 million, will be used for the CCI.

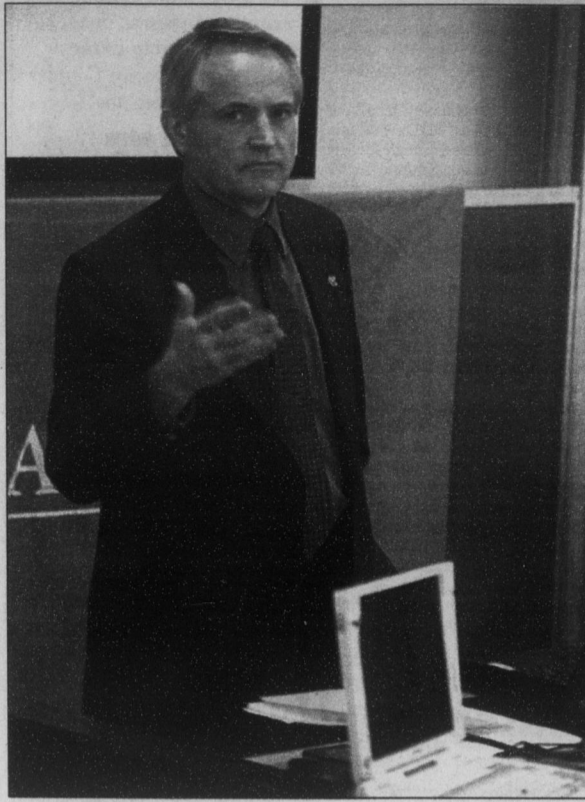
Although it might seem that only students entering starting in the year 2000 will benefit from these funds, Hooker said current students feel the effects now.

"The enrichment funds are benefiting today's students through the grants that have gone to faculty," he said. "The faculty grants have led to better opportunities and technology for students."

Selecting a vendor will be the next step in the initiative, Moore said. "We're looking for a PC vendor with excellent pricing, service and support," she said. "The process hasn't started yet, but it will go on over the next few months."

PC's will not replace all other computers on campus, Moore said.

"We won't do away with computer labs," Hooker said. "But they will be downsized over time."



Chancellor Michael Hooker fields questions about computer requirements Thursday at McColl Building. Entering freshmen in 2000 must have laptops.

University Police chief steps down

■ University Police Chief Don Gold has been on leave since October.

STAFF REPORT

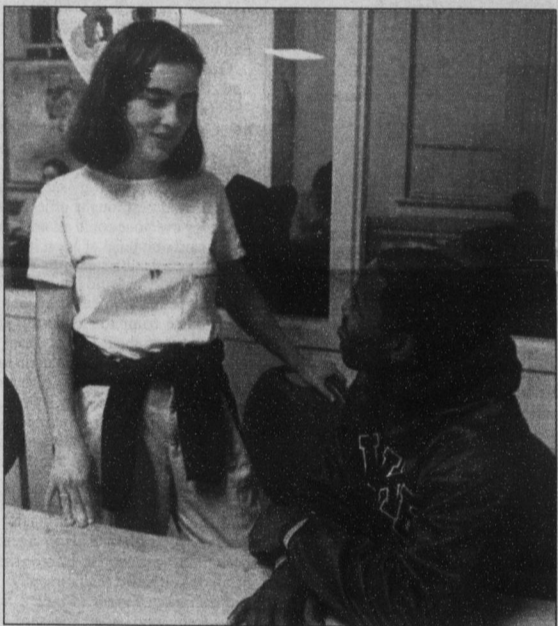
The director of the Department of Public Safety, Don Gold, resigned Thursday, after taking a personal leave of absence in October in the midst of a controversy surrounding University Police.

Gold submitted his resignation after serving as a University Police officer for 12 years. He was named director of the DPS in October 1995 and was the sixth University Police chief to serve since 1987.

Executive Vice Chancellor Elson Floyd announced that a national search for a new director would start immediately.

According to a press release, Gold has decided to pursue a career in the private sector. "Don is a consummate professional who greatly cares about the University community and during his tenure at Carolina did everything he

SEE GOLD, PAGE 4



Junior Kimberly Dougherty chats with Michael Steele at dinner Thursday. She regularly volunteers at the Inter-Faith Community House.

Dougherty gives time, heart

BY QUYNH TRAN
STAFF WRITER

"When you see people on Franklin Street, there's always a story behind the faces," said Junior Kimberly Dougherty when asked why she volunteers for the homeless.

Dougherty began connecting stories with the faces when she started working at the Inter-Faith Council Community House on the corner of Rosemary Street and Airport Road.

The work she does at the house has helped her understand people less fortunate than herself.

Dougherty began working with the homeless as a part of her youth group in Fayetteville last semester.

SEE DOUGHERTY, PAGE 4

Serving up Hope

Dinnertime at a local shelter reveals the faces behind the homeless of Chapel Hill.

BY DELANEY SUSIE
AND QUYNH TRAN
STAFF WRITERS

Though the milk is a little watered down, the food is hot and plentiful at the Inter-Faith Community House, which opens its doors daily for warm meals.

The crowd is an eclectic group of warm faces representative of a segment of the community which does not include college students or University professors. Though free from the stress of exams and papers, these individuals must worry about where their next meal comes from.

Belinda and Kendra Currie, ages 5 and 3, weave around the dinner crowd to get to their mother, Linda Currie.

"We come up here for dinner once in awhile. They know everyone here," Linda says with a soft chuckle, as

Kendra talks to the man beside her, giggling and gazing at him with wide, captivated eyes.

Linda, a small-framed woman with her hair pulled back tight, has lived in Chapel Hill all her life. Her eyes unravel stories of experience, and her flashing smile is alive and honest.

Linda and her children have lived in an apartment for a year but still have difficulties making ends meet in Chapel Hill.

"It's always been too high to live here," Linda explains. "The bills pile up, and you don't know where you're going to get your next meal. I just take one day at a time."

High costs, low wages

Situations like Currie's have been a growing problem for others in the Chapel Hill area. Chris Moren, director of the Community House on Rosemary Street, says, "We're serving more women and more families than we ever did. And the problem is not going away. It's becoming something everyone expects in society."

Chapel Hill's homeless problem can be attributed to the

SEE SHELTER, PAGE 4



Felix Brooks relaxes in the Inter-Faith Community House office before dinner Thursday evening. Communal warmth, as well as food, draws regulars to the house every day.

Kenan-Flagler Business School graduate students face tuition increases

BY JESSICA LUGINBUHL
STAFF WRITER

Out-of-state graduate students in the Kenan-Flagler Business School will likely see a tuition increase beginning next year.

The Board of Governors Finance Committee passed a resolution Thursday requesting an annual tuition increase of \$1,000 for out-of-state master's of business administration students and an increase of \$1,500 for out-of-state master's of accounting students. The resolution will be presented to the

BOG at its meeting this morning.

While the business school might receive the tuition increase, it is not what it originally requested.

"It has been a complicated issue for a while," said Cindy Falgout, communications director for the business school. "We requested an increase for MBA and MAC students."

The issue of the tuition increase has been surrounded by controversy since last summer. The former business school dean, Paul Fulton, bypassed the BOG and asked the N.C. General Assembly for a tuition hike. BOG members were

upset at the disregard for the system, and the General Assembly passed the issue back to them.

The business school originally requested a phase-in increase of up to \$5,000 over the next three years.

The tuition increase will be used to offer more services to students.

"It was requested to provide financial aid to students, to continue to attract the best and the brightest students, and get faculty support for the program," Falgout said. "It should expand the support services for student programs and placement jobs. It is important to continue

to expand the business school to change, adapt and to meet the changing and expanding business world."

UNC-system President Molly Broad said she believed the tuition increase would not affect future enrollment.

"I am confident that the business school will continue to attract nonresident students in large numbers because it is so much lower than other schools with which we compete," Broad said.

Students also believed the tuition hike would not lower enrollment numbers.

"Relative to what I was paying it's not that big of a hike," said Chris Hutnick, a

master's of accounting student from Williamsburg, Va.

Thursday's meeting was the second time the finance committee met on this issue. At the BOG meeting in January, members postponed the decision on the hike until this month because the proposal was unexpected.

"This meeting was a continuation from last month," said Joni Worthington, assistant vice president of UNC-system communications division.

"We sent the proposition to the finance committee for additional background information."

Drug abuse quadruples in UNC system

■ The recent increase could be an indication of stricter drug enforcement.

BY EMILY CRAMER
STAFF WRITER

An increased number of reported substance abuses throughout the UNC system could be an indication of heightened drug enforcement, officials said.

An annual report, presented Thursday to the Board of Governor's Committee on Educational Planning, cited an escalating number of drug violations over a nine-year period. The figures climbed from 178 reported violations in 1988 to 579 in 1997.

The report is an effort to keep the universities in check, said Cynthia Bonner, UNC-system General Administration's associate vice president for student services and special programs.

"This report is not an attempt to explain numbers but to monitor the campuses of the UNC system and the imposition of minimum sanctions," she said. "All of our campuses did apply minimum sanctions."

"Enforcement is a factor in the

SEE UNC DRUGS, PAGE 4

INSIDE Friday

Blue Devils stop Tar Heels

The UNC women's basketball team fell out of a three-way tie for first place in the ACC with an 83-70 loss at Duke on Thursday. Page 9

Love sweet love

Students are making that last-minute mad dash to area card shops for a perfect way to express feelings to loved ones. Page 2

Today's weather

Partly cloudy; Low 50s
This weekend: Mostly sunny; Low 50s

Good things are not done in a hurry.

German proverb