

Faculty Seeks Alternative To Carolina Course Review

Faculty Council members say the Carolina Course Review has become outdated and ineffective.

By COLLEEN JENKINS
Staff Writer

The Carolina Course Review of the past is in its last year of operation as the University Faculty Council searches for a new way to evaluate courses.

At Friday's meeting, a council task force suggested using the review this year until a more effective permanent system was created.

"The faculty is not abandoning the Carolina Course Review," said Bob Abner, council member. "There are actually objections to the statistical makeup of the system."

The review is a publication that lists students' course and professor evaluations after every semester.

The evaluations, because of revisions that are in the works, probably will not be much help to students this year at all, said Boone Turchi, task force member and economics professor.

Faculty Council Chairman Pete Andrews said the committee passed a resolution a year and a half ago to not put the evaluations on the Web.

"It seemed unfair to post results if there were questions of validity," he said. "We want to restrict the information to UNC sites."

Turchi said review changes stemmed from concerns that the statistics used were outdated and ineffective in measuring all aspects of a course.

However, the Educational Policy Committee reported a report to the Faculty Council three years ago saying the course review should not be used for tenure or promotion purposes.

"The Carolina Course Review was originally run by students for students as a consumer's guide," Task Force Chairman Douglas Kelly said.

"Dissatisfaction arose among faculty members after the University adopted it as a way to evaluate teaching, mostly because of the way the statistical analysis was being done."

With the course review's current system, instructors or departments could

choose whether or not to use it, though the dean required all departments to use some form of evaluation, Kelly said.

As for student opinion of the reviews, some said the reviews were rarely used. "I didn't even know it existed," sophomore Meghan Cody said.

But even those who chose not to take advantage of the course reviews acknowledged the importance of some form of student evaluation.

"Evaluations are important for those who need to see them because some teachers are good and some are not," senior R.T. Ferrell said. "I always go by word of mouth, though."

Task force recommendations cite the need to develop a system that benefits students, instructors and administrators, Turchi said.

As a starting point, the task force examined a system used at the University of Michigan, which tailored questionnaires to individual classes.

Andrews said one goal was to resurge student interest in using the evaluations, and Kelly said he hoped to see student input on the new course review system.

Abner said the revisions were not to lessen the role of student evaluations.

"While some faculty doesn't like public evaluation, the vast majority realizes its importance and wants it to continue."

The University Editors can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Pay Raise Should Not Affect Tuition

The 3 percent salary increase for UNC-system faculty awaits passage by the N.C. General Assembly.

By VANESSA HASTIE
Staff Writer

Tax dollars, not student tuition, are expected to foot the bill for a proposed three percent salary increase for UNC-system faculty.

The financing for the increases would come directly from the state's general funds appropriated to the UNC system, which is divided into salary, operations and capital.

At the Board of Governors meeting last Friday, President Molly Broad addressed the proposed salary increase approved months ago by the BOG, which is currently being considered by the N.C. General Assembly in their budget negotiations.

"Both (N.C. State University) and (UNC-Chapel Hill) fare better among our American Association of University Professors peers in faculty salaries,"

Broad said.

"Our goal is to have our faculty in the first two quintiles of AAUP salaries," she said.

For the 1997-98 school year, N.C. State and UNC-CH surpassed the median public AAUP average yearly faculty salaries, except for N.C. State professors' salaries.

Only the University of Michigan ranked higher than UNC-CH in the salaries of all professional ranks, which included professors, associate professors and assistant professors.

A six percent increase was the BOG's original request, but the proposal set by the House was three percent plus a one-time one percent bonus increase.

This agreement is included in the budget bill, which has been passed by the House and sent to the Senate, where it has been in conference for approximately 45 days.

"There are no cuts (in funding for other programs); the money has already been set aside," said Gene Arnold, R-Nash.

"It is just a matter of implementing the raises now as opposed to when we sign the budget bill."

"Our goal is to have our faculty in the first two quintiles of (American Association of University Professors) salaries."

MOLLY BROAD
UNC-system President

"We want them to go ahead and pass it so it may be retroactive through the first of July," he said.

The recommendation has yet to pass the Senate, but negotiations are expected to continue this week.

BOG members expect a legislative decision very soon, although they are not completely satisfied with the size of the increase.

"The board consensus is that we want more than three plus one percent, but that is what they could provide," said BOG member William Brown.

"We hope to hear from the legislature in Raleigh by next week."

The State & National Editors can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Campus Calendar

Monday

3:15 p.m. - The University Counseling Center in Nash Hall will conduct a career clinic to help students learn the steps to making an informed choice of major and career.

7:30 p.m. - Amnesty International Group 84 will have a meeting in Union

210. All who are interested are welcome.

7:30 p.m. - The Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies will debate "Resolved: A moral politician cannot prosper," on the third floor of New West. Guests are welcome.

Items of Interest

The Curriculum in Peace, War, and Defense will sponsor a symposium on Steven Spielberg's "Saving Private Ryan" on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Hill Hall auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The symposium is open to the public.

The Association of English Majors will hold an interest meeting on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in Donovan Lounge in Greenlaw Hall for all English majors and other interested students.

Run the Franklin Street Mile!! Alpha Phi Omega will sponsor the event Saturday. Proceeds will go to the N.C. Special Olympics. For more information or for an application, visit www.RTPnet.org/~ctc.

There will be team competitions and a best costume competition, as well as prizes, t-shirts and refreshments.

Artistic Therapist Seth Lester will present a lecture and workshop on "Healing Through Color." The lec-

ture will be Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. and the workshop will be Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Emerson Waldorf School at 6211 Jericho Road. Cost for the workshop is \$50 and includes lunch. Cost for the lecture only is \$10. For more information, call 967-9452.


The UNC Diabetes Care Center is forming a team for the American Diabetes Association's fifth annual America's Walk for Diabetes at Glaxo Wellcome's South Campus in Research Triangle Park on Oct. 3 at 10 a.m. Anyone from UNC or UNC Hospitals who signs up by Oct. 1 for UNC's team for the 10K walk will receive a free T-shirt on race day.

For more information or for a registration brochure, call 966-0134 or visit the American Diabetes Association Web site at www.diabetes.org/walk.

There will be a CPR and home safety class on two consecutive Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the James T. Hedrick Building, 211 Friday Center Drive. Space is available for these two-part classes: Oct. 5 and Oct. 12, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, and Dec. 14 and Dec. 21. Cost is \$25 per person.

For more information, call UNC HealthLink at 966-7890.

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