

Study: Faculty Pay Ranks High

UNC-CH professors were listed as the fifth highest paid in the nation by a study published last week.

By AMY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Some educators have taken issue with a study that lists UNC-Chapel Hill professors as the fifth highest paid in the nation.

The study, released last week by the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, a non-profit public policy organization, states that UNC-CH paid faculty \$88,000 on average, \$9,900 above the national average of \$78,100.

Howard Harper, a UNC-CH English professor, said he did not agree with the figures depicted in the study. He also said he had never seen the amount of money the study claimed to give UNC-CH faculty.

"I question the whole procedure," he said. "I suppose some people here get that salary, but I never saw that type of money."

"We are obviously not as well paid as other professors in the medical, law and business departments," he said.

UNC-CH was topped only by

University of Virginia (\$94,700), University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (\$91,700), Georgia Institute of Technology (\$91,100) and Rutgers University (\$90,100).

The study ranks Research I institutions as classified by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and includes institutions that graduate students with doctoral degrees, receive ample federal support and offer competitive programs.

Jon Sanders, director of publications for the center, said different departments paid different salaries. Other factors such as gender and lengths of employment affected the outcome, but overall, the study was based on an average.

"Humanities departments are known to pay the least amount of money while the sciences are the most money," he said. "It is an overall broad average. There is no way to see how all the factors break down."

Sanders also said the cost of living in the surrounding area was important.

He said the American Chamber of Commerce Research Association put out a quarterly survey of 300 areas across the country and analyzed the cost of living in those areas.

"We used that information and combined it with the existing information to compare salaries to the cost of living

when considering where to move," he said. "We look at everything from grocery prices to land."

The Raleigh/Durham area is almost at the national average while places such as New York City and western cities are twice or triple the national average, Sanders stated in a recent report.

This means that professors are drawn to universities such as UNC-CH and N.C. State because wages are high and it does not require a lot of money to live comfortably, he said.

"The effect is that the professors here, even when they receive fewer dollars than professors living in such high-cost areas as Boston, New York and Los Angeles, are given dollars that go a lot farther because of the relatively low cost of living in the Triangle," Sanders said.

However, Alan Stiven, a professor of Biology at UNC-CH, said the information sounded very misleading.

"That information cannot be correct at all," he said. "The study must lump our medical facilities in there. Those do not get counted at other institutions."

Although N.C. State ranked 22 in the survey, it still bested the national average at \$81,900.

Sanders said UNC-CH and N.C. State ranked above average not only among other comparable public institutions as far as professors salaries, but

Educated Earnings

A study released last week lists professors at UNC as the fifth highest paid nationally.

1. University of Virginia — \$94,700
2. University of Michigan at Ann Arbor — \$91,700
3. Georgia Institute of Technology — \$91,100
4. Rutgers University — \$90,100
5. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — \$88,000
6. University of Texas at Austin — \$87,500
7. State University of New York at Buffalo — \$87,400
8. University of Iowa — \$86,400
9. Pennsylvania State University — \$86,300
10. Purdue University — \$85,900

SOURCE: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

also among assistant and associate professors.

"For us, the rankings are not the crucial issue," Sanders said. "Its the salaries that are competitive."

This magazine and the work we do provides a better grasp of the salaries professors can make. We provide a better way of looking at the information."

The City/State & National Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.

Capowski Decides To Leave Council

By JACOB MCCONNICO
City/State & National Editor

After serving two consecutive terms and contributing eight years in direct service to the town, Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski has decided not to run for re-election to the Town Council.

Capowski said, in a prepared statement for the media, that public service had taken a toll on his professional career as a computer design engineer at UNC.

"With some sadness, I conclude that it is practically impossible to pursue a full-time professional career while serving on the Town Council and do a good job in both," he said. "This is the primary reason that I have decided to step aside."

His statement did not address rumors that the 55-year-old might be considering running for mayor, but Capowski said in an interview that the absence of a statement was not intentional.

"There's no hidden meaning there," he said. "I'm not planning on making a run for mayor."

The announcement, which was made last week, ensured that there would be at least one new member elected to the Town Council in November. Open filing for this year's elections begins Friday and ends Aug. 6.

Ruby Sinreich, a 28-year-old UNC graduate, announced last week that she would seek a Town Council seat. Sinreich previously served as chair of Chapel Hill's Transportation Board.

In addition, Bill Strom, a 43-year-old citizen activist, announced Tuesday that he would also run for Town Council. Strom has served on the Orange Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors since 1997.

In his statement, the 55-year-old acknowledged the fact that he had lost his passion for public service.

"My long-time friend Bill Davis continually provides the litmus test when he

asks, 'Joe is it still fun?'" Capowski said. "Lately, my answer is, 'No it isn't, Bill. The meetings and the readings and the site visits are getting old.'"

Capowski also stated that his considerable time on the Town Council had given him the ability to quickly assess public needs, but with that experience came a degree of monotony.

"Eight years of town service provide a marvelous and mixed education," Capowski said. "But with experience also comes tedium, and that is not fair to today's participants. Everything that a council member does is important to someone and deserves his fresh attention."

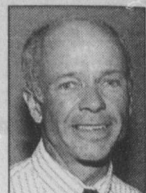
Town Council member Flicka Bateman, who served as Capowski's campaign manager, said she was not surprised by the decision because Capowski had always given so much of himself to the Town Council. "I wasn't surprised," she said. "I can certainly see why someone who has given eight years of service would need a break."

Capowski stated in his release that the town should try to capitalize on its present resources.

"I believe that we must recognize what we are, and work to maintain and enhance this heritage and our attractions," he said.

"Conversely, we must resist two increasing pressures: to become something that we are not, and to devote too many of our resources to the automobile."

The City/State & National Editor can be reached at citydesk@unc.edu.



After eight years of service, Town Council Member Joe Capowski announced he will not run again.

Legislators Kill Tuition Increase Proposal

By KATIE ABEL
Staff Writer

A legislative proposal that would have allowed individual UNC campuses to raise tuition without the approval of the Board of Governors has been struck down by state legislators.

The bill would have allowed individual system campuses to raise tuition by \$500 over a two-year period.

The proposal seemed to be in conflict with recently passed legislation that gives specific tuition-raising power to the BOG.

"They decided it just didn't make sense," said Student Body President Nic Heinke. "I think our lobbying played a big role."

The defeat of the proposal comes a week after last week, when 10 student leaders from UNC campuses protested

the proposal because it was in conflict with the UNC system's history of low tuition.

Heinke said BOG members and former UNC Presidents William Friday and C.D. Spangler were a vital part of lobbying efforts.

The University people have thanked us," said Jeff Nieman, outgoing Association of Government President and BOG member.

"Since we all made our opposition so clear, we brought this issue to the forefront."



Outgoing BOG member Jeff Nieman said vocal opposition was important in defeating the bill.

The proposal was independent of the across-the-board BOG tuition hikes imposed by the BOG.

The proposal would have increased faculty salaries because the University pays its professors less than other high caliber schools, like the University of California at Berkeley and Michigan.

The 65 percent of the money made by the tuition hike would have gone to increasing faculty salaries. The remaining 35 percent would have gone to student aid.

But Heinke said the issue of faculty salaries would not be ignored.

The BOG will now conduct an assessment of UNC faculty salaries, Heinke said.

In other legislative fronts, the Senate Budget and Finance Committee unanimously recommended Tuesday the approval of a \$3 billion bond package

that would provide for the construction and renovation of UNC-system buildings.

Friday told legislators that university improvements were important for the entire state because universities had historically contributed to North Carolina's overall economic prosperity.

But Nieman said the package must now be put before the entire Senate and must be battled in the House before it gets final approval.

"The tricky part is getting them to see that this should be approved without having to go to a public vote," he said.

"In our opinion, the members of the General Assembly were elected to make these types of decisions."

Nieman said it was difficult to determine just how much legislative support would be generated for the package in the end, but most legislators would not openly oppose university improvements.

"Thus far we've gotten the optimum favorable reading from the Senate committee," he said.

Opponents of the referendum think that people have the right to vote for the package, which would take money from the pockets of taxpayers.

The bond referendum was introduced after higher education consultant Eva Klein determined the necessary renovations and new construction that were critical for the UNC system during the next five years.

Improvements for the UNC-Chapel Hill campus would focus on adding new residence halls and improving some of the aging buildings on campus.

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

Residents Spout Off On Expansion of IFC

By JACOB MCCONNICO
City/State & National Editor

Residents crowded the aisles and clamored in the back of Chapel Hill Town Council chambers at Town Hall to voice opinions about proposed expansion at the Inter-Faith Council's homeless shelter.

Board members of the IFC have requested permission to expand the shelter's location at 100 W. Rosemary St. to a 7,200 square foot facility that would accommodate an IFC headquarters with 36 parking spaces.

Rita Gray, president of the IFC's Board of Directors, said the board's main priority was to help its patrons.

"What the IFC wants is to provide

the best possible services to the people we serve," she said.

Town Council members heard opinions from 26 residents, including 13 who voiced opposition to the proposal, 10 in support of the proposal and three that encouraged council members to seek the best decision for the community.

Ken Spaulding, a resident representing a number of residents, property owners taxpayers, community leaders and business leaders, said the group was opposed to expansion at the IFC's present site.

"We respectfully request that the Town Council support a more suitable See COUNCIL, Page 7



Town Council Member Lee Pavao will serve on the town's Inter-Faith Council Task Force.



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