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Committee Members: Tuition Plan 'Outmoded' Leaders Seek Alterations To Proposal

By MATTHEW B. DEES
State & National Editor

As officials prepare to decide today on a plan to raise tuition to boost faculty salaries, two members of the voting committee have called for a significantly higher increase and questioned the financial mission of the University.

In a Friday letter to members of the Chancellor's Committee on Faculty Salaries and Benefits, Professors David Guilkey and Edward Samulski drafted a plan that would raise in-state undergraduate tuition by \$1,500 over five years — three times the amount pro-

posed last week by Provost Dick Richardson.

Guilkey and Samulski also stated that UNC's tuition policy was in need of revision, criticizing the "literal and outmoded interpretation of our mission to keep the cost of a Carolina education as low as practically possible."

They advocated a plan to incrementally raise tuition over five years, starting with a \$500 increase for the 2000-01 school year and going up \$250 each year until the 2004-05 school year. They also supported beefing up initiatives to help low-income students, including need-based and merit-based aid pro-

grams.

Guilkey and Samulski argued that asking the legislature to foot 72 percent of the pay raises, as was suggested last week, was unfair and unrealistic.

Guilkey said in a telephone interview that the burden for raising faculty salaries should rest on students and parents, not taxpayers.

"To think that we're going to get (a 5 percent salary increase) in the aftermath of Floyd is unrealistic," he said.

"The people who benefit more than anyone else are people who get their degrees from here. So why should they not pay their share of the freight?"

The proposal has drawn harsh criticism from student leaders on the faculty salary committee.

Lee Conner, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, described the letter as "morally reprehensible."

He railed against the professors' critical comments of the University's priority of keeping tuition low and a statement in the letter that "significant numbers of parents within our state are (or should be) embarrassed by Carolina's low tuition."

"It flies in the face of our mission," Conner said. "To say that people should

be embarrassed by low tuition is just completely disrespectful of the student body."

Student Body President Nick Heinke said he was infuriated by the timing of the letter as well as its contents.

"This was so last minute," he said.

Heinke argued that raising tuition too much would deter poorer families from even considering sending their children to UNC. He added that public ignorance of financial aid programs reduced their effectiveness.

"(Some parents) are just going to pick See COMMITTEE, Page 6

Leaders Seek Alterations To Proposal

Student leaders say their decision to support the plan hinges on whether officials revise its details.

By KATIE ABEL
University Editor

Student leaders are calling for a University committee to alter details of a proposal that would increase faculty salaries at UNC before it leaves the negotiating table today.

Student Body President Nic Heinke and Graduate and Professional Student Federation President Lee Conner said the plan, presented last week by Provost Dick Richardson, should include a greater percentage of financial aid for students, lower tuition increases for both in-state and out-of-state graduate students and a written oath signed by top UNC officials that would refute any additional tuition increases during the next five years.

"We saw some major flaws in the proposal, especially the security of the long-term plan, the proposed financial aid percentage and the graduate tuition increase," Heinke said.

Heinke and Conner, both of whom sit on the committee, have asked that 40 percent of the proposed tuition increase be dedicated to financial aid, instead of the 30 percent allocated in the original proposal, which was brought to the committee by Provost Dick Richardson last week.

Their requested amendments also stressed that the University should commit to meeting the financial needs of all students — both in-state and out-of-state students — in contrast to Richardson's original plan that called for UNC to "continue to meet 100 percent of the financial aid of all in-state undergraduate students."

"We believe that financial aid status for students is just as important as faculty salaries," Conner said. "If you can do one, then you can do them together."

Heinke and Conner also said the

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Employee Assaulted In Union

An attempt to sexually assault a UNC housekeeper has left University Police on the lookout for a suspect.

By DAWNE HOWARD
Staff Writer

University Police say they are following several leads after an attempted sexual assault on campus Saturday.

University Police Chief Derek Poarch said Sunday he could not reveal any details of the ongoing investigation, but confirmed that a female housekeeper was sexually attacked at the Student Union at about 6 p.m. Saturday.

This weekend's attempted assault marks the third attack on a woman on UNC's campus since the fall semester began.

Two female students were attacked on campus in August. The man arrested by the Department of Public Safety for those assaults is awaiting trial in the Orange County Superior Court.

Poarch described Saturday's attacker as a black man between the ages of 14 and 16.

The man was 5 feet 3 inches tall, had a very slim build and was wearing black pants and a long-sleeved red shirt at the time of the attack, according to police reports.

The 37-year-old victim was checked on the scene by emergency medical personnel, Poarch said. She did not require treatment.

The housekeeper first encountered the attacker and his two companions when they knocked on a door and asked to go to the bathroom, Poarch said.

The attacker then knocked the housekeeper to the floor and dragged her into the bathroom, he said.

She screamed for the police, and the three then ran to a vehicle in Union Circle. Poarch said the vehicle was a light brown or tan Jeep Cherokee.

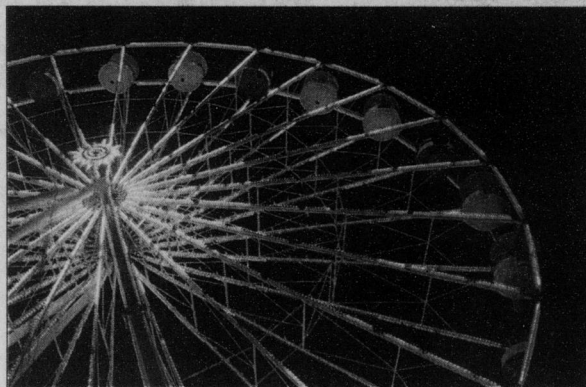
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A FAIR TO REMEMBER



DTH/JEFF POULAND

Fairgoers (above) perched on the gondola view the fireworks display that lit the sky over some of the 104,000 people that attended the 132nd State Fair on Saturday. The nightly show starts at 9:45 p.m. at the Sam Rand Grandstand. The classic ferris wheel (right) lights up the sky at the Midway. The annual event draws people from all over North Carolina. See story page 4.



DTH/MILLER PEARSALL

Hurricane Irene Soaks State

Staff & Wire Reports

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Hurricane Irene drenched southeastern North Carolina with nearly half a foot of rain Sunday as it churned up the coast, unleashing more flooding in a region still saturated by record floodwaters from Hurricane Floyd.

But East Carolina University, a school ravaged by Floyd's flood waters, and UNC-Wilmington did not evacuate, deciding to ride out Irene.

Neither school's officials made plans to cancel classes today, citing the storm's projected oceanbound path and relative weakness.

But Robert Carver, a spokesman for the State Emergency Response Team, said flash flooding was "a very real possibility" along the Tar, Neuse and Cape Fear rivers.

When asked how much rain would cause the already swollen banks of these

rivers to flood, Carver replied, "It's not going to take much."

Late Sunday night, up to 7 inches had fallen in parts of eastern North Carolina, with more rain possible, the National Weather Service said.

More than 2,100 homes and businesses were without power in the eastern half of the state as of 7 p.m.

A tornado spawned by the hurricane touched down near the town of Weeksville in Pasquotank County about 6:40 p.m., destroying six homes and damaging several more.

"It appeared it touched down in that neighborhood and then either went out over the water or lifted up and went on," said James Edwards, Pasquotank County's central communications director. Edwards said one person received minor injuries.

As the storm turned east and its strongest wind moved away from land, the National Weather Service dropped

hurricane warnings at 11 p.m. Tropical storm warnings remained in effect for most of the N.C. coast.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami said it appeared increasingly likely that Irene and its 75 mph winds might skirt the N.C. coast without coming ashore.

"It's moving more toward the east, but it could be very close to the Cape Lookout area in the early morning hours. That's what it looks like," said meteorologist Bill Frederick. "The strongest part of the storm is to the east, so the strongest part should remain out over the water, but it will all depend on how close the eye will get to the land."

But the greatest concern was rain, not wind, and the eastern coastal plain, inundated by Hurricane Floyd just four weeks ago, was especially vulnerable to more flooding.

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October Report Details Heinke's Achievements

By LAUREN BEAL
Assistant University Editor

Six months into his administration, Student Body President Nic Heinke counts accessibility and accountability as two of student government's greatest achievements this year.

Heinke broke down the progress and accomplishments of the executive board in the annual October Report, presented to Student Congress members at Tuesday's session.

Of the 36 platform goals outlined last spring, Heinke and his executive branch have touched on all but three issues, according to the report.

"Holding Cabinet meetings in different locations, going door to door, talking with students — it's given me so much feedback I wouldn't have otherwise," Heinke said.

Executive branch members have also worked to increase student accessibility by holding Pit-sits throughout the semester. Heinke has delivered a State of the University address each month to the student body. Both activities were key points of Heinke's platform.

Heinke said he got great satisfaction out of the implementation of the campus Emergency Alert System, another platform goal.

Under the new system, campuswide e-mail messages alerted students to the attempted sexual assaults in August and

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Report Addresses Nonplatform Progress See Page 6

Carolina, Speak Out!
A weekly DTH online poll
Do you support a tuition increase to raise UNC faculty salaries?
Go to www.unc.edu/dth to cast your vote.

INSIDE
Monday

Lending a Hand

Help and Homelessness Outreach Program members have spent their weekends in eastern North Carolina helping victims clean out their homes and businesses after Hurricane Floyd. See Page 5.

Community Outreach

Several former UNC athletes joined together to use the lessons they learned in school and in competition to start their own Raleigh-based business. See Page 9.

Speak Your Mind

Student group representatives are invited to attend the DTH's second Association of Student Leaders meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in 100 Hamilton Hall. Call 962-4086 for more details.

Today's Weather

Sunny;
Low 70s.
Tuesday: Sunny;
High 60s.

We forget that money gives its value — that someone exchanged work for it.

Neal O'Hara