

# The Daily Tar Heel

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## Back to Normal

Workers have finished construction on Ridge Road.  
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## From the Ashes

Carboro police help a couple rebuild their lives after fire destroys their home.  
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## 'Pack Fights Back

N.C. State snaps UNC's four-game winning streak.  
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## Weather

Today: Showers; H 59, L 31  
Saturday: Sunny; H 54, L 32  
Sunday: Sunny; H 54, L 34



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# BOG Set to Vote on Proposal for 5-Year Tuition Plans

By ALEX KAPLUN  
State & National Editor

The UNC-system Board of Governors likely will vote today on a proposal requiring all 16 UNC-system schools to create five-year plans for tuition and fees.

## A BOG Vote Could Shorten UNC-CH's Academic Year

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The Budget and Finance Committee proposal would allow each campus to come up with its own long-range tuition plan but seeks to prevent wide disparities in tuition between similar institutions by promoting correlation between campus-

es as officials craft different plans.

The proposal, which has yet to be drafted and was not on the agenda Thursday, aims to make tuition increases more predictable. But the five-year plans would serve only as a nonbinding guide for campus administrators.

The proposal was the result of a motion by Addison Bell, BOG Budget and Finance Committee chairman, who called for the plan at the committee's Thursday meeting.

Bell said he proposed the plan because it would create predictability in tuition and fees for students entering college and help generate a systemwide approach toward tuition. "The truth is if

one institution has a campus-initiated (tuition) increase, that triggers other tuition increases," Bell said. "We're putting out a fire every year."

Bell did not cite a timeline for when campuses' long-range plans might be crafted. He said it was impossible to predict how long such a process would take.

Bell also said a key component of the plan would be for all the campuses to work with each other and with the Office of the President to create the five-year plans. "I want to look at the total picture, not just pieces," he said. "This way we can avoid a snowball effect. Basically, one school - (UNC-)Chapel Hill to be honest - comes in and triggers

(tuition) increases at other campuses."

The proposal comes as about a half-dozen UNC campuses are in the process of crafting tuition increases.

If the proposal passes the BOG today, Bell said he expects campus-level administrators to take it into consideration when forming tuition requests this year.

Ideally, Bell said he would prefer a moratorium on tuition increases this year while all the campuses generate their five-year plans but added that it was unlikely the BOG would approve such a move.

Andrew Payne, UNC-system Association of Student Governments president, said he supports the proposal because it would provide predictabil-

ity for students and reduce tuition disparities between UNC-system schools.

"We don't want students to choose one of the campuses because of costs, we want them to choose because of academic programs," Payne said.

The proposal comes as the BOG begins examination of its own tuition policy. Today the BOG Budget and Finance Committee will host a workshop to discuss its existing tuition policy, which was first adopted in 1998 and then modified by the N.C. General Assembly this summer.

UNC-CH Provost Robert Shelton, who is chairman of the University's Task Force on Tuition, said the proposal is in line with his committee's efforts on the

UNC-CH campus.

The Task Force on Tuition will generate a campus-initiated tuition increase proposal - which it will recommend to the UNC-CH Board of Trustees on Jan. 24 - at its Tuesday meeting.

One of the topics discussed by task force members in the last two meetings is finding a way to make tuition increases more predictable in future years.

"What they are asking for is the same thing as the tuition task force we have here wants," Shelton said. "(The BOG) wants the same kind of predictability."

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## Grad Students Call For Higher Stipends

The Task Force on Tuition is considering using funds from increased tuition for more graduate student pay.

By RUTHIE WARSHENBROT  
Staff Writer

Members of the UNC community expressed support Thursday for the Task Force on Tuition's suggestion that part of a tuition hike should go to increase graduate student stipends.

At Wednesday's task force meeting, James Alstrum-Acevedo, a graduate student who is a member of the tuition committee, presented information that he said indicates the need to increase graduate student stipends - payments graduate students receive based on their teaching commitments.

After Alstrum-Acevedo spoke, the task force agreed to use part of a tuition increase to improve graduate stipends.

The committee was formed in November after Chancellor James Moeser suggested that officials examine the need for a campus-based tuition increase.

The data presented at the meeting compares graduate student stipends with stipends given at UNC's peer institutions. It also shows how much time graduate students spend teaching undergraduate students compared with faculty.

The information came from a fall 2000 survey conducted by the N.C. Public Service Workers Union, the employee and graduate student union.

In most departments, UNC offers lower regular stipend amounts than a majority of its peer institutions.

The data also shows that graduate students teach 51 percent of UNC classes.

"Looking at the data, it's obvious that graduate students do have a great impact," Alstrum-Acevedo said Thursday, adding that most graduate students pay tuition out of their own pocket.

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## Qatar Campus Could Offer Pre-engineering

Adding an engineering prep program to the proposed UNC campus could increase the labs and faculty needed.

By JORDAN BARTEL  
AND NIKKI WERKING  
Staff Writers

UNC might soon be preparing students in Doha, Qatar for degrees in engineering as well as business at its proposed campus in the small Middle Eastern nation.

As part of its negotiations with the University, the Qatar Foundation for

Education, Science and Community Development requested that UNC add a pre-engineering program to the curriculum of their proposed business school.

Before the pre-engineering curriculum was suggested, UNC would have been responsible only for providing a two-year General College curriculum and a two-year undergraduate business program.

Because UNC does not offer an engineering major for its Chapel Hill students, students in the Qatari program would take General College classes through UNC and then enter an engineering program offered by another U.S. university participating in the program.

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## PUPPY DOG EYES



DTH/JOSHUA GREER

A puppy waits for adoption in the Orange County Animal Shelter. This dog wandered up to the shelter Jan. 6, and is scheduled to be adopted sometime soon. Ryan Rhodes, a kennel technician, said he hopes people carefully consider the stakes before adopting a pet.

## Study to Probe Gap in Women, Minority Salaries

A previous UNC study found that female faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences about \$10,000 less than their male peers.

By JEFF SILVER  
Staff Writer

Officials will meet today to set guidelines for a survey that aims to assess a discrepancy between what women and minority faculty members are paid compared to other UNC-Chapel Hill faculty.

Lynn Williford, director of institutional research, said her office and Provost Robert Shelton's office will lead the survey. She said today's meeting will determine what variables the study should examine to find the reasons behind the pay difference.

The Office of Institutional Research has never before conducted a formal study of UNC-CH's minority faculty salary gap. But according to a 2000-01 Office of Institutional Research study, female faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences are paid about \$10,000 less on average than their male counterparts.

Williford also said the meeting will address how various UNC-CH departments will contribute to the study and will explore measures to ensure that all departments are judged fairly. "We need to make sure we are doing an even assessment across all departments," she said.

Williford said today's gathering also will deal with how to assess the situation given the fact that some faculty members have additional administrative duties, which increase their salary. "We can't compare apples and oranges," she said.

The survey comes in the wake of a study at N.C. State University last fall that discovered white male faculty earn, on average, \$1,000 more than their female and \$2,000 more than their minority colleagues annually.

The University already tracks its salary figures demographically, but officials hope the upcoming study will investigate aberrations in the data.

The study also might include less-publicized numbers, such as possible discrepancies in startup costs given to newly hired male, female and minority professors.

Sue Estroff, Faculty Council chairwoman, said she is pleased UNC-CH will be conducting the survey, even though she believes it was prompted by N.C. State's study. "I'm a pragmatist," she said. "Whatever it takes to get the information is fine with me. I'm probably one of those affected by this."

Diane Kjervik, director of the Carolina Women's Center, also said she is looking forward to seeing the survey results. "My ultimate goal is to have information about the gender gap," she said. She attributed the salary difference to long-held gender values.

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DTH/SARA ABRONS

Future snowstorms in the Chapel Hill area could stretch funds not specifically designated for snow cleanup.

## More Snow Cleanup Could Stress Town Budget

By COLIN SUTKER  
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill town officials say area roads were cleared with no immediate threat to the town budget after almost one foot of snow fell on the area last week.

But town officials say additional snowfall this season could threaten the town's fiscal reserves.

Although the snow, which started falling Jan. 2, caused several problems for the town's roadways, Town Manager Cal Horton said Chapel Hill reserves funds for events such as these.

"We always expect unusual storm events and have to allocate funds for that in the budget," Horton said. "It's a

normal part of our expenditure."

But other town officials say another similar event could pose problems to maintaining a balanced budget because last week's storm has already depleted town resources.

Public Works Director Bruce Heflin said that although the town prepares for natural emergencies, there is a limit to the town's ability to pay for unexpected events in one year. "This was an expensive storm," said Heflin. "It could easily run into the tens of thousands of dollars. Depending on how many more storms we will have the rest of the year, we'll have to see how it will affect our budget. If we have a lot more snow, then we'll have a problem."

Each year, individual departments in Chapel Hill include emergency spending in their planned budget.

As unpredictable events such as snowstorms occur, the departments use the designated funds to pay additional costs like supplies and employee overtime.

Chapel Hill firefighters, police officers, and Public Works employees all received overtime while working on the cleanup.

"If we have an expensive recovery, that reduces the amount of funding for normal operations," Horton said.

Greg Ling, who works for public works, said road damage, such as potholes, might not become apparent until later.

"It's not something that happens immediately," Ling said. "Effects will not be seen right now."

Horton added that potholes are an inevitable result of snowstorms.

"One of the normal results we always expect to see is the formation of potholes," Horton said. "Any place the snow and ice is able to penetrate the asphalt will cause separation of the pavement."

Horton said he was happy with the overall results of the cleanup.

"We're very pleased that there were no deaths or serious injuries to any employees during this storm."

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Reform, that you may preserve.

Lord Macaulay