

The Daily Tar Heel

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Helping Hoops

Volunteers participate in
3-on-3 basketball tournament.
See www.dailytarheel.com



I Would Walk ...

... 27 miles to N.C. State. Students walk
to support the battle against AIDS
See Page 3

Spring Fling

Football ends spring practice
with intra-squad scrimmage.
See Page 10



Weather

Today: T-storms; H 82, L 59
Tuesday: T-storms; H 86, L 58
Wednesday: Showers; H 85, L 59



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ASG Forms Budget Committee to Handle New Funds

By ELYSE ASHBURN
Assistant State & National Editor

GREENVILLE — Under fire from UNC-system Association of Student Governments members for handling the association's budgeting process solo, ASG President Andrew Payne created an ad hoc Budget and Finance Committee at the association's meeting Saturday.

After receiving several complaints before and during the meeting about how the budget process was being han-

dled, Payne made a motion to create a committee that would review and revise the ASG's budget.

The finance committee will submit a final budget proposal May 4 to the ASG General Assembly for approval.

In March, the UNC-system Board of Governors approved a \$1 systemwide student fee to increase funding for the organization. But the board also asked the ASG to examine its budget and specifically the \$95,000 allotted to professional staff members in the original proposal.

The ASG has a budget of no more than \$4,000, but the new fee will generate \$165,000 a year for the organization. "When we only had \$4,000, the presi-

dent and the secretary of finance made budget recommendations," Payne said. "But that was \$4,000, and now we have \$165,000, and maybe we need a new process."

Former UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President Justin Young was selected to serve as chairman of the



ASG President Andrew Payne called for the creation of a committee to review the budget.

budget committee.

Payne said Young was selected because he serves as the chairman of the Council of Student Body Presidents and is well-respected within the association.

Young said he was pleased with the nomination even though he had been looking forward to some time off. "I was kind of surprised that I would chair it," he said. "I'm excited, actually, about doing it."

The budget committee tackled several issues during its first meeting Saturday, including how to schedule enough time in the next three weeks to meet the May 4 deadline.

The committee also began prelimi-

nary discussions about possible revisions to the budget proposal, including allocating some funds for savings.

Several committee members initially reacted positively to the savings concept, but N.C. Agricultural & Technical State University Student Body President Greg Drumwright squelched the discussion. "I don't think it would be a smart idea to have a savings account in our first proposal," he said. "They'll say, 'Wait a minute, I thought you needed all this money.'"

Other committee members voiced concern that long-term planning did not factor enough into the standing proposal.

ASG Treasurer Jonathan Ducote said the proposal should be revised to incor-

porate more far-reaching goals. "We need to set three-year goals," he said. "We need to be thinking three years ahead. I think that's the smart thing."

Overall the committee seemed optimistic about the possibilities created by the \$165,000 in funds. But members acknowledged the limitations created by the massive start-up costs they face this year as the association attempts to set up a permanent office. "Some of the projects we may want to do may have to go on hold for a while because of start-up costs," Ducote said. "That's the grim reality."

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Student Government Sees Rise in Interest

By PHILISSA CRAMER
Staff Writer

Although student leaders say many divisions of student government have seen increases in applications this year, it remains unclear whether interest in running for vacant Student Congress seats will experience a similar rise.

More students than usual applied to fill positions in the executive branch Cabinet, to join the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor and to serve as senior marshals.

Congress Speaker Tony Larson said he expects this trend to extend to open congressional seats. A special election to fill 14 vacant seats will be held April 23. "I am very confident we'll be able to fill all the seats on the 23rd," he said.

Traditionally the positions least sought during student elections, congressional seats have not been completely filled in two years, he said. Larson said 11 people already have formally expressed interest in running. Petitions to run are due Thursday.

Larson said a rise in applicants would increase Congress' legitimacy. "If we have a full Congress that is representative of the student body, and we pass a resolution, that really sends a powerful message that this is what students want," he said.

Student Body President Jen Daum said she received 50 applications for Cabinet positions and 21 for officer positions. She said these numbers were at least twice as high as she could remember them being in recent years. SACC received 108 applications this year, which Rudy Kleysteuber, former student body vice president and SACC chairman, said was about twice the number it received last year.

This year was the first that the application for

SACC was online, which might have helped increase the number of applicants, Kleysteuber said.

Daum said she attributes the interest from students to disillusionment with the relationship between past student government and the administration.

Daum said she thinks students felt marginalized by the University administration's discussions about a proposed business school in Qatar and a proposed night parking plan. As a result, she said, more students are getting involved.

"Students want to express their views to the administration, and they feel that hasn't happened in the past," she said.

Daum said many students are trying to channel their frustrations into effective involvement.

"I think that students are ready to see serious change in the administration, and I think students want to be a part of that change," she said.

Larson said student government's recent achievements — like getting a seminar on Qatar established last semester and helping convince the UNC Board of Trustees to send back the University's night parking proposal — now have galvanized the student body. "The success student government has had in getting its voice heard has increased interest as well," he said.

But Kleysteuber also said the various setbacks — noting the recent approval of a campus-initiated tuition increase — that last year's administration suffered sent the message to students that active participation in the University is needed.

"There's a new thread of student frustration that is providing a motivation to get involved."

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JUST PEACE PROTEST CONVENES ON FRANKLIN



Members of Jews for a Just Peace and other concerned community members gather to protest in front of the Franklin Street post office. Jews for a Just Peace organized the gathering late Friday afternoon to protest Israeli occupation of Palestine and violence against Palestinians.

DTH/SARA ABRONS

Survey: 1 of 3 UNC Students Feels Unsafe at Night

By JOHN FRANK
Assistant University Editor

Freshman Sarah Matista is afraid to walk to campus at night.

Earlier this year, Matista said two men asking for money blocked her path and made her and her roommate feel threatened in the unlit parking lot behind Fraternity Court.

That time, Matista and her roommate were unharmed. A police car pulled up, and the two men fled, she said.

Bu Matista said that since the incident, she does not walk from her Granville Towers room to campus without another person — and even then, she still doesn't feel safe.

"Since then, I don't ever walk around at night alone or even just with my roommate," she said.

And Matista is not alone in feeling unsafe walking on campus at night.

According to a poll conducted by The Daily Tar Heel last week, almost one in three students feels unsafe walking on campus at night.

Overall, students almost unanimously — 99.5 percent — feel safe on campus during the day, but only 69.3 percent feel that way after dark.

But the degree of students' feelings of safety differs dramatically. While 87 percent said they feel very safe during the day, only 15.8 percent said they feel

very safe at night.

The poll, which was conducted by telephone April 1 through April 8, surveyed 385 randomly selected undergraduate, graduate and professional students regarding their opinions about the level of safety on campus.

Students assessed their feelings about campus safety through a series of eight questions. The results have a sampling error of plus or minus 5 percent.

The issue of campus safety has come to the forefront after three on-campus assaults were reported in recent months. Safety concerns also were a major issue in the discussion of a night parking program the UNC Board of Trustees rejected at its meeting last month.

On Jan. 19, a male and female student were robbed at gunpoint shortly after 9 p.m. near Coker Arboretum. The two suspects took an unknown amount of money from the students and then fled on foot.

Two months later, a 21-year-old female student reported that she was the victim of a misdemeanor assault while working in the Morehead Parking Lot on March 20. Police said the incident involved a man who inappropriately touched the victim.

Three days later, a female student reported that she was the victim of a sexual assault that occurred Feb. 27. The student reported that she was forced to the ground by her assailant near Alumni

Survey Says ...

A poll recently conducted by The Daily Tar Heel provided statistics about students' perceptions of campus safety. The results showed drastic divides when broken down by gender.

The poll surveyed 385 randomly selected students by telephone from April 1 to April 8. The results have a plus or minus 5 percent sampling error with a 95 percent confidence level.

The survey had a 55 percent response rate. Of the people surveyed, 43.2 percent were men, and 56.8 percent were women; 73.2 percent were undergraduate students, and 26.6 percent were graduate or professional students.

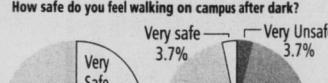
SOURCE: DAILY TAR HEEL POLL

Hall and that she then blacked out. Police said the student was a victim of a sexual assault, although University Police Chief Derek Poarch did not describe the incident as a rape.

Police have not made an arrest in any of the three assaults.

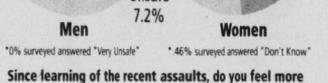
About two out of five, or 43.8 percent, of the students responded that they were more afraid walking on campus at night than they had been before learning

How safe do you feel walking on campus after dark?

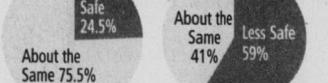


* 46% surveyed answered "Very Unsafe" * 46% surveyed answered "Don't Know"

Since learning of the recent assaults, do you feel more safe on campus at night, less safe or about the same?



Men



Women

DTH/MARY STOWELL

Poll Shows That Women Feel Less Safe Than Men

By JOHN FRANK
Assistant University Editor

women feel less safe since learning of the recent assaults. In comparison, 24.5 percent of men said they feel less safe.

Student leaders said that because women make up almost 60 percent of the student body, they are concerned that such a large group feels threatened.

"On a campus that is predominantly female, we need to prevent these feelings from occurring and make sure women have options," Student Body President Jen Daum said.

Kind Shim, chairwoman of Advocates for Sexual Assault Prevention, also said she thinks it is important for women to feel safe so they are willing to go out at night.

"The threat is more for women," Shim said. "They worry about every sound in the bushes. You don't want to feel like a hostage."

But women are not the only group that has safety concerns — the poll showed 33 percent of off-campus residents feel unsafe, as compared to 26.9 percent of on-campus residents. Most students and

See WOMEN, Page 2

ing of the three assaults.

More than 92 percent of students said they knew about the assaults.

BUT Sue Kitchen, vice chancellor for student affairs, dismissed the idea that students are unsafe on campus. Kitchen said that students' safety concerns do not reflect their actual risk on campus but rather reflect their misperception

See SAFETY PERCEPTION, Page 2

The poll showed that 59 percent of

"Freedom from fear" could be said to sum up the whole philosophy of human rights.

Dag Hammarskjold