# **BOG, General Assembly Dispute New Pharmacy Program**

Program would cost system \$7 million

Tuesday, August 20, 2002

By SARA LONGENECKER

UNC-system Board of Governors officials say they cannot feasibly estab-lish several new programs mandated by provisions in state budget proposals. An N.C. Senate 2002-03 budget proDare, said Senate officials asked the BOG to begin a study last year evaluat-ing the need for an additional pharmacy school in the system and the feasibility of developing one.
"The BOG looked into two options

vision that might be included in the finalized budget stipulates that a stand-alone pharmacy school at Elizabeth City State University be fully accredited and school, which would cost \$7 million, and a joint-school, which would cost \$3 staffed by the 2004-05 academic year.

Amy Fulk, press secretary for Sen.

President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-

The BOG then recommended a cooperative program with UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Pharmacy because of North Carolina's tight budget situation. But the N.C. General Assembly con-

tinued to pursue the issue after the N.C. House reiterated the Senate's request for a stand-alone facility at Elizabeth City State and added a request for a stand

alone engineering school at East Carolina University. The House also called for engineering programs at Western Carolina University and UNC-

Fulk said the House did not request feasibility studies before making its addi-

tional requests.
"The House Budget Committee saw the proposal for the (Elizabeth City State) pharmacy school and added addi-tional programs," Fulk said.

BOG officials maintain their earlier recommendations, which call for a joint program with UNC-CH rather than a stand-alone facility at Elizabeth City State because of cost issues.

"Setting up additional stand-alone pharmacy schools is important to the BOG, but it's not feasible at this time," said Teena Little, BOG vice chairwoman. "With a cooperative program, the accreditation would already be

But Fulk said the stand-alone school would create a needed job market in the eastern part of the state.

The opportunities available in that area are currently dominated by students from UNC-CH's pharmacy

school, she said. Fulk said a joint school situation

would only further benefit UNC-CH. "To have a state university system, ou can't have everything in Chapel

Hill," Fulk said. "Every campus should have something special." UNC-CH Chancellor James Moeser said he supported the BOG's decision to oppose the General Assembly's

flagship school.

"(The General Assembly's decision

Little stressed that despite the disare not completely at odds with each

The State & National Editor can be

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He said the establishment of such programs would erode the quality and ourpose of UNC-CH as the system's

is) a manifestation of regional politics at play," Moeser said.

agreement between the General Assembly and the BOG, the two bodies

She said, "We hope to individually and collectively talk to the legislature and say, 'While we want these programs, it's just not possible now'.

reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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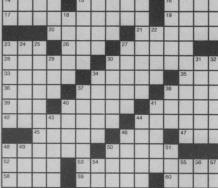
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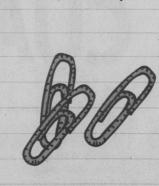
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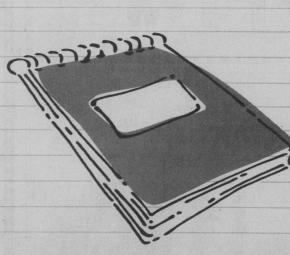
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