

## Speak Out On Housing Ordinance

The term "Land-Use Management Ordinance" is a little intimidating. These weird town terms can scare me sometimes, too. But the draft of the proposed changes in this specific ordinance is worth your attention.

So allow me to try to explain how exactly it will affect students. "Land-Use Management Ordinance for Dummies," if you will.

More importantly, here's why you should take all your frustrations after reading this column and channel them into a concise, intelligent but angry e-mail to Chapel Hill Town Council members protesting the implementation of the ordinance.

Behind its intimidating title, the document could directly affect the student population's off-campus housing options. Main concerns to students are proposed housing unit occupancy limitations and duplex prohibitions.

First, the current limit on occupancy is four unrelated persons per unit. Already, this is not enforced unless a complaint is issued. But the new ordinance will decrease this limit to an unreasonable two unrelated residents.

Inevitably what will happen is landlords will only put two names on the lease while still allowing more residents to live there. The rule will just force renters and landlords to find ways to around the laws.

The problem is, leases are legal documents. Dorothy Bernholz of Student Legal Services said she is concerned for students' rental protection if their names are not on the lease. Those who aren't on the lease are not legally bound to pay rent, nor are landlords obliged to acknowledge their rental concerns.

And those renters who aren't down with cheating the system will just move to Carrboro or lower-rent areas farther from campus, only increasing the urban sprawl and traffic concerns the ordinance is trying to prevent.

Second, the ordinance would prohibit the further development of duplexes. But this change is largely a result of the complaints of residents from the Northside community, whose close proximity to the campus and downtown area has recently attracted students.

However, the non-student residents of the Northside community argue that students bring noise, trash and parking problems. They are asking the town to prohibit the further development of duplexes in their neighborhood to deter the student population.

Common sense would say stricter enforcement of traffic and noise violations would solve the problems. But the town is considering banning the building of duplexes all together and phasing out the use of existing duplexes.

There are many duplexes around Chapel Hill, not just in Northside. Sweeping legislation has the ability to affect large amounts of residents quickly and drastically. Large changes should not be implemented simply to help out specific neighborhoods that don't want to deal with students.

Town officials are accepting comments on the issue until their Oct. 21 meeting. If off-campus housing is important to students, inform the town the proposed restrictions are unreasonable.

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CAROLYN PEARCE  
CITY COLUMNIST

# Professional Schools Dropped From Budget

By MATT HANSON  
Staff Writer

Funding for a stand-alone pharmacy school at Elizabeth City State University despite being included in budget proposals from both the N.C. House and Senate.

The Senate version of the budget called for only the new pharmacy school at Elizabeth City State, while the House version also included plans for a stand-alone engineering school at East

Carolina University and engineering programs at UNC-Asheville and Western Carolina University.

The Elizabeth City State program was reviewed by the UNC-system Board of Governors after a provision in the 2001-02 budget called for the board to review the benefits and feasibility of a new pharmacy program.

The BOG recommended a pharmacy program at Elizabeth City State to work in conjunction with the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy. Senate Appropriations Committee

Chairman Howard Lee, D-Orange, said that for the pharmacy school at Elizabeth City State to get funding, the committee also would have had to approve the other new programs.

He said the tight budget did not allow for the entire provision to pass.

"There were too many other additions in the same provision that would have short-circuited the process of approving new additions," Lee said. "The question is finding money to support it so it can move ahead."

Rep. Bill Owens, D-Pasquotank,

whose district includes Elizabeth City, said the budget crisis contributed to many legislators' refusal to support the proposal.

"In the budget crisis we're in, it doesn't take much when someone says, 'We don't want it,'" he said.

But many legislators said they support an independent pharmacy school.

Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare, and other supporters of the plan were displeased by its omission from the budget.

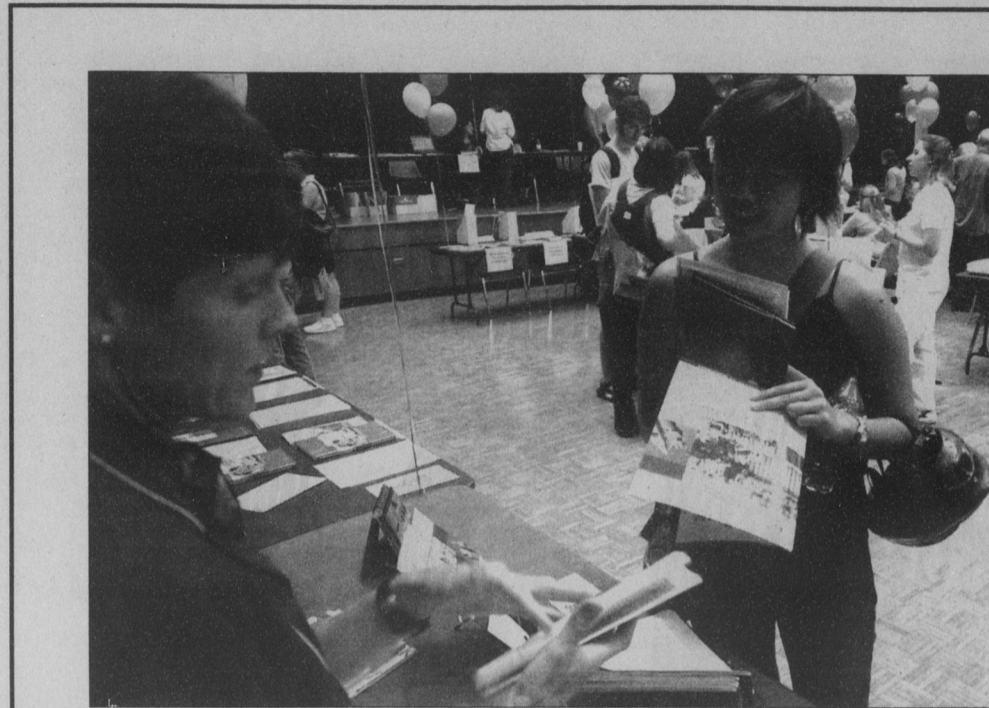
"He was pretty disappointed that it

wasn't in there because it had gone through a review by the BOG," Amy Fulk, said Basnight's press secretary.

She said the proposals came under fire for being a convenient way for legislators to tack on provisions that benefit their constituencies.

But Fulk emphasized that Basnight thinks the pharmacy school would have provided a specialty program for an institution other than the system's two flagship campuses - UNC-CH and

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Sophomore biochemistry major Suzanna Hahn talks to representatives from the Study Abroad Office about studying in Copenhagen, Denmark, during the fair Tuesday afternoon in the Great Hall.

## Study Abroad Still Strong

By JOHN LIPPS  
Staff Writer

Despite the economic recession and military conflicts overseas, students at the Study Abroad Fair on Tuesday said they were not discouraged from studying abroad.

According to study abroad officials, the number of applications turned in this semester is close to last year's number.

Sophomore Michael Minder, a chemistry major who attended the fair, said he has not been deterred from studying abroad. He also stressed the importance

of studying away from UNC-Chapel Hill's campus.

"The terrorist attack on September 11 was an isolated incident," he said. "Studying abroad is good because you can get an idea of what's going on outside Chapel Hill. Plus it gives a first-hand experience with other cultures and lifestyles."

Mark Nielsen, information systems coordinator for UNC's study abroad program, said he is not surprised by the number of applicants.

Nielsen said the number of applicants does not necessarily reflect the number

of students who will actually go abroad. Nielsen estimates that 310 students will go this spring, as opposed to last spring's 302.

Programs in the Middle East seem to be most affected by recent events overseas, Nielsen said.

Four UNC-sponsored programs to Israel and three UNC-approved programs to Israel offered through other institutions have been suspended.

In addition, a summer program in India offered through N.C. State

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# ASG to Work on Credit Transfers Within System

Plan to aid transfers is expected this fall

By KIMBERLY TIMKO  
Staff Writer

The UNC-system Association of Student Governments is developing a program that would enable general college course credits to transfer more easily between the 16 system campuses.

ASG President Jonathan Ducote said the program aims to improve graduation rates within the system.

He said students are often unable to graduate in four years when they trans-

fer between two system schools because general requirements at one school transfer to another as elective credits.

"We want to help students get out on time and save the state and students money," Ducote said. "If a student wants to go to an institution, then nothing should stop him. This program could help that become a reality."

The ASG has no definite plan, but it expects to present a firm proposal to the UNC-system Board of Governors by December or January.

It hopes the program will be implemented next year.

"This idea has been tossed around for a long time," Ducote said. "We didn't have the resources to work on it. This year, increased funding has allowed us to work on it."

Marsha Moore, ASG vice president of academic affairs, the committee researching the transfer program, said she has talked with students who have had problems transferring credits.

Moore said it is easier to transfer credits to a system school from another UNC-system institution than from a university outside the system. But she said

she thinks there is room for improvement, as many courses only count as electives when transferred to other system schools.

"We're good, but we want to make it better," she said.

Jerry Lucido, UNC-Chapel Hill director of admissions, said he doesn't know of any difficulties students face when transferring class credit from other system schools to the University.

"We were unable to find any examples of people having problems with general requirements," he said. "This issue is more of a problem for students transferring into technical programs, not

Chapel Hill."

Admissions officials decide whether a course taken at another university corresponds with a course offered at UNC-CH.

Lucido said credit for most classes will transfer if the students received a grade of C or better in the class.

Carolyn Cannon, associate dean of academic advising for the UNC-CH College of Arts and Sciences, said transfer students usually don't struggle to fulfill general college requirements because students can challenge any courses that

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