

BOARD EDITORIALS

PLANNING AHEAD

The five-year spending plan presented during the recent UNC Board of Trustees meeting offers leaders a prioritized list of campus needs.

Amid a flurry of confusion about money at UNC, administrators have brought some sense of stability back to campus.

Officials in the Division of Finance and Administration presented their spending priorities for the next five years in a draft released at the UNC Board of Trustees meeting Nov. 19.

The draft lists administrators' top 10 funding priorities, allocating more than \$200 million to various initiatives.

The administration's openness in outlining its goals is a welcome development that might partially offset the surprise from other discussions Nov. 19. Shocks still are reverberating on campus concerning possible tuition increases of as much as \$8,000 for out-of-state students, as suggested by Trustee Paul Fulton at the meeting.

Thankfully, the new guidelines will help to give some idea of where any new tuition money might go.

Nancy Sutenfield, vice chancellor for finance and administration, told The Daily Tar Heel that the plan will help the University in its mission to become the leading public institution in the nation.

The priorities listed in the draft certainly represent needs that must be addressed on campus, regardless of the way in which they are ordered.

It's good to see a new degree of openness concerning the administration's financial goals — the list is the first of its kind at the University.

Sutenfield said the list provides a mechanism for administration officials to make more informed decisions when allocating resources for academic planning.

Without directly mentioning state budget cuts, she said that organizations must make difficult decisions in these tough economic times.

But the planning efforts are far from over. Sutenfield also said she expects the five-year plan to spark dialogue among campus leaders about issues that concern the University.

With the increasing likelihood of tuition increases shifting a greater financial burden onto our campus, at least this draft gives the students some idea of the direction in which the money will go.

BOT members should take note and make an effort to communicate as early and as tactfully with the University community in the future.

EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS

GIVING THANKS

Spending time with family at Thanksgiving not only is about good food and relaxation, but offers time for reflection about privileges.

What an odd fall it has been so far. With 60-degree weather, losing to Duke in football and tuition proposals that might raise my costs \$6,000 to \$8,000, when Thanksgiving rolls around I'll be glad to take a break from this campus, which is experiencing more volatility than a milk-drinking contest.

The drive back home to Virginia only takes 3 1/2 hours, but I feel worlds apart while home.

Thanksgiving is one of the few times where I revel in returning to my family. Usually, I can't wait to get back to the Hill as soon as I leave.

But something special about Thanksgiving draws both me and my attention square to the dinner table where a big ol' turkey, bread stuffing and cranberry sauce await, ready to be ravished.

Afterward, I spend hours comatosely staring at a football game I don't care about, drifting in and out of sleep.

Part of the reason I love this so much is spending these times with close family and friends. The other

COLIN SUTKER
EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER

part to it is that I have the privilege to do so.

Staring down the dinner table, I am fully aware that other families are not able to partake of the same pleasures that I am.

In economic times such as these, many families are finding it difficult to lay their table with the seasons' traditional servings.

For whatever reasons, and by whoever's blessing, I look forward to this holiday as a time of abundance and good memories.

During this holiday, remember to give thanks for the gifts and joys you have. I know I will.

The future doesn't hold the same certainty as it did for college kids before us.

And as I think of the next few years consisting of job interviews and final projects, I am thankful for every slice of turkey I get.

UP IN SMOKE

A proposal from the Residence Hall Association to ban smoking in campus residence halls will help to rid the University of a nuisance.

In North Carolina, tobacco is king. Talk about tobacco borders on taboo. The state economy will continue to cash in on tobacco, no matter what the health hazards. Tobacco pays the bills — case closed.

A recent proposal by the Residence Hall Association to ban smoking in all residence halls won't change any of that. If the Department of Housing approves the proposal, which would go into effect next fall, the North Carolina economy will still do just fine.

This is not a threat to the tobacco industry or an attack on anyone's lifestyle. All the proposal asks is that smokers enjoy their tobacco products away from balconies, breezeways and open connectors.

Smokers will not be left out in the cold. Frankly, what cold is there to be left out in? This is North Carolina, where shorts are the norm for November.

Whether the weather is permitting is not the issue here. The main point is that of 2,377 students polled, 69 percent said smoking should never be allowed in residence hall rooms, and a high percentage agreed that balconies should be included in the ban.

DANIEL DAVID
EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER

An majority of on-campus students polled in October supported a smoking ban. Eight residence halls prohibit smoking. The four new halls on South campus are on this list, because the central air of these facilities could suck up smoke and redistribute it.

The plan's aim is consistency, since students often wonder why the health of some residents isn't valued as highly as those in a neighboring residence hall.

Let the residence halls make individual movie nights and hold individual tea parties; they should be uniform in their rules on the prohibition on puffing.

If the proposal passes, this is one less pollution we will have on our hands. I'd much rather contend with a different brand of pollution prevalent on campus; the type that afflicts anyone with a suitmate whose beats boom so loudly, it borders on insanity.

Air pollution or sound pollution? I pick the second.

EDITORS' NOTE: The above editorials are the opinions of solely The Daily Tar Heel Editorial Board, which were reached after open debate. The board consists of eight board members, the assistant editorial page editor, the editorial page editor and the DTH editor. The 2003-04 DTH editor decided not to vote on the board and not to write board editorials.

READERS' FORUM

Cornucopia House to host holiday celebration Dec. 2

TO THE EDITOR:

The holiday season is quickly approaching, filling the air with joy and excitement for days to come. However, the holiday season can be especially difficult for those who have a loved one with cancer. The time of year dedicated to spending time with family and friends can be even more challenging for those who have lost someone to cancer.

As if all-night study sessions and marathon paper writing were not enough stress for students, those with parents, family members and friends who are dealing with or have lost their lives to cancer are even more vulnerable to depression and loneliness during the holidays.

I know first-hand that the staff at Cornucopia House Cancer Support Center is waiting to reach out and comfort anyone who is dealing with the disease or experiencing the grief and loss of a loved one from cancer during the holidays, and every day.

Cornucopia House is hosting a holiday celebration open to the public and the students of UNC are invited. The Healing Power of Friendship Celebration will be held at Cornucopia House on Tuesday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at 111 Cloister Court, Suite 220, Overlook Building in Chapel Hill.

Cornucopia House Cancer Support Center offers education and support services for cancer

patients and survivors as well as their friends and family members. They offer support groups, complementary therapies such as massage, yoga and chi gung, cancer information libraries, as well as a warm and loving staff. Everything is free.

For more information on Cornucopia House Cancer Support Center, visit <http://www.cornucopiahouse.org>.

Mary Sherrill
Senior
Journalism and Mass
Communication

File-sharing limits undercut mission of the University

TO THE EDITOR:

Deactivation of "some" file-sharing applications by the Kenan-Flagler Business School and the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry is not only a futile effort but is also contradictory to UNC's mission. Not only is the software legal, but aside from these specific file-sharing applications, there are dozens, no, hundreds of other ways to share copyrighted work online and over networks that are not and will not cease. People will file share both legally and illegally regardless of this hindrance.

Second, is the business school's violation of our University's mission.

In fulfillment of this mission, the University dedicates itself to "acquire, discover, preserve, syn-

thesize and transmit knowledge" in an "environment of research, free inquiry and personal responsibility." Tell me how the ban on file-sharing applications upholds these words which are the principle of the existence of this institution.

Thomas Ciszek
Senior
Operations Research

Out-of-state students must protest tuition proposals

TO THE EDITOR:

From the moment I arrived on this campus, I was a Carolina girl. My spine tingles when I hear the bell tower ring, and my heart fills with pride as I sing "Hark the sound!" However, to the UNC Board of Trustees, I'm only a resident of Alabama and somehow unworthy to share in the traditions of the University of North Carolina, that is, without paying a dear price. I was shocked to read in The Daily Tar Heel last week that the BOT proposed an out-of-state tuition hike of anywhere from 1,500 to 8,000 dollars! Other out-of-staters shared my concern. Many of us received little to no financial aid and worry that future years at Carolina could be increasingly difficult on our families, or even impossible.

I understand that from North Carolina's view, UNC-Chapel Hill is a university for the people of North Carolina. However, don't

ON THE DAY'S NEWS

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

JOHN F. KENNEDY, U.S. PRESIDENT

EDITORIAL CARTOON

By Doug Marlette, Tribune Media Services



LOCAL AFFAIRS

Personal gain, not politics at stake in property swap

I'll paraphrase an oft-quoted "I Love Lucy" line when discussing a recent controversy between a Chapel Hill Town Council electee and the University.

Use your best Desi Arnaz Cuban accent and join with me: "Cam, you've got some 'splainin' to do!"

I'm talking about the house swap between council member-elect Cam Hill and UNC that has led many in the area to demand that Hill explain himself. It's been the hot topic in the area of late.

Hill, who campaigned as a pro-neighborhood voice and raised concerns about campus expansion, has negotiated to trade his West Cameron Avenue property to UNC for a University-owned house on East Rosemary Street and \$100,000 in cash. The swap will allow UNC to proceed with plans for a parking lot at its cogeneration plant on Cameron Avenue.

The UNC Board of Trustees approved the deal last week, but it has not yet been finalized. Still, some are complaining that the swap reeks of hypocrisy from Hill, who portrayed himself as a neighborhood advocate in the recent election.

That image is similar to the one he pushed in 2001, when he entered the town mayoral race after the University tried to convince him to sell his property. His campaign centered on UNC's threat to the town as it continued expanding, and although he eventually he dropped out of that race, he held onto these concerns for the recent Town Council race, in which he placed third.

Until last year, Hill's negotiations with the University had dropped off. But when a neighbor sold her lot to UNC, Hill faced the possibility of having a house between two paved slabs of land.



MICHAEL DAVIS
OUTSIDE THE BUBBLE

He eventually came to his agreement with the University, but now that details are "surfacing," folks are upset that it wasn't brought up more extensively during the election.

Among those peeved about the deal is former candidate Rudy Juliano, who finished in seventh place in the recent Town Council election. He told The Daily Tar Heel earlier this week that "(these details) should have been divulged during the campaign. It could have changed the outcome."

But Rudy, this issue has been public record for some time, as explained above. And Hill alluded to it during one candidates forum in October. So it was open game then.

Sure, he probably should have been more forthcoming about the negotiations, just from an image standpoint. But he was in no way compelled to do so.

And in an editorial Sunday, The Chapel Hill News called on Hill either to take the market value of his property or totally abandon the deal, claiming that it "potentially erodes his effectiveness as a council member in the crucial town-gown negotiations to come over Carolina North and other university expansion issues."

That's a ridiculous argument.

Hill simply was looking out for his personal interests by trying to get the best deal with the University, and if that means

"Sure he probably should have been more forthcoming ... just from an image standpoint."

pocketing \$100,000, then so be it. I won't get into the numbers, but he doesn't really come out ahead.

But trying to link this situation with UNC's impending projects, such as Carolina North, by claiming that he will be unable to stand up to the University is jumping the gun.

In the land swap deal, Hill was protecting his interests as a property owner. When he reviews the Carolina North plans next year as a Town Council member, he will be wearing another pair of shoes — those of a democratically elected representative of the people.

These are two different matters, although they can be blurred easily as shown by this overblown issue.

Many newcomers have softies lobbed at them, but Cam Hill gets a hardball right off the bat. His character as a local politician will be tested first on how he handles this situation.

So far, he's doing the right things. Hill held a press conference Monday afternoon in which he denied withholding details for campaign purposes.

The 'splainin' is necessary, but now that the details are on the table, maybe this issue will be viewed for what it is: a personal matter that has little to no bearing on the ability of a civil servant to do his job effectively.

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Thomas talk dismissed idea of objective journalism

TO THE EDITOR:

I attended the Helen Thomas presentation at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication on Monday, looking forward to a thoughtful review of the presidents she's covered and/or some semblance of an intelligent analysis of world affairs.

Instead she presented a heavy liberal/leftist rant — so comforting to the People's Republic of Chapel Hill — resorting to every worn out, hotly contested anti-Bush, anti-Republican argument she could pack into the hour, along with some heavily biased sound bytes about the presidents she's "covered." Hint:

Gale Scott
Freshman
Music

Jeff Davidson
Chapel Hill

TO SUBMIT A LETTER: The Daily Tar Heel welcomes reader comments. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 300 words and must be typed, double-spaced, dated and signed by no more than two people. Students should include their year, major and phone number. Faculty and staff should include their title, department and phone number. The DTH reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity and vulgarity. Publication is not guaranteed. Bring letters to the DTH office at Suite 104, Carolina Union, mail them to P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 or e-mail them to editdesk@unc.edu.