

The Daily Tar Heel

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TUITION ON THE TABLE

INPUT

Decision process criticized

BY JENNIFER IMMEL
SENIOR WRITER

A proposed tuition increase that undoubtedly will affect many aspects of University life will be finalized today by UNC's governing board.

The decision marks a break from tradition as a select group of trustees and high-level administrators single-handedly crafted a proposal that likely will increase resident tuition by \$300 and nonresident by \$1,500 next year.

According to members of the campus community and documents obtained by The Daily Tar Heel, board members have met routinely behind closed doors since the board's last meeting Nov. 20. Trustees and administrators have met in person almost half a dozen times in the past two months, but only one of those meetings included a student and none involved a faculty member.

This has led many to believe that concerns and recommendations from faculty, students and — most importantly — the Tuition Advisory Task Force — have been disregarded.

For the past three years the task force has been charged with crafting all campus-based tuition proposals. This year's proposal called for a three-year \$900 tuition increase for all students.

Of the \$22.2 million that would have been generated from that increase, the lion's share would have gone to need-based financial aid and faculty salaries. "The Tuition Task

The University's governing body expects to vote today on a tuition increase proposal that would alter significantly not just the how much students pay for their studies, but also how the money is used and the philosophy by which such increases are approached.

The process started in typical fashion, with a tuition task force recommending a \$900 three-year increase for all students. But last fall the Board of Trustees rejected that plan

and rapidly crafted a proposal that focuses the increase on nonresidents. The result was a one-year increase to raise tuition \$300 for residents and \$1,500 for nonresidents.

Also inherent to the proposal is a new market-based tuition philosophy that seeks to put UNC in the 75th percentile of its peers for nonresident tuition — a move that would require a \$3,600 increase in the next few years.

The board will vote on the proposal at 4 p.m. in the Carolina Inn's Hill Ballroom Central.

PHILOSOPHY

Attitude shift seen in plan

BY JOHN FRANK
STAFF WRITER

When talking tuition, it's the numbers that grab students' attention.

On the table is a \$300 increase with the option of two more \$300 installments for in-state students and a possible \$3,600 hike with an initial \$1,500 for out-of-state students.

The numbers are confusing. Even University officials "did the math wrong," leading them to change the proposal from a \$6,000 out-of-state hike to the current possibility of a \$3,600 long-term increase.

Often overlooked in the confusion is a fundamental change in the philosophy used to set tuition.

The philosophy shift is important in the tuition debate, Provost Robert Shelton argues, because it sets the direction and boundaries for future discussions and increases.

On paper, the new philosophy is simple: In-state tuition should remain affordable and accessible, while out-of-state tuition can be value- and market-driven.

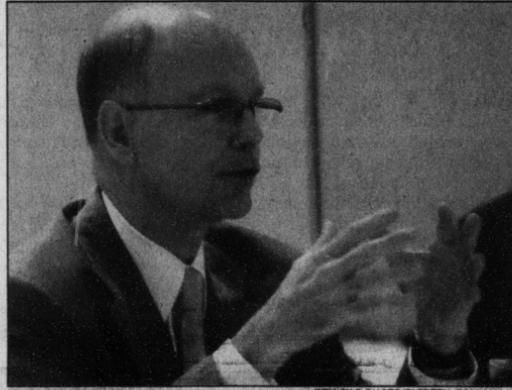
Yet ingrained in the discussion is a controversial issue that has divided the University community.

On one side, proponents argue that increasing tuition revenue is the only way UNC can get money to retain top faculty and decrease class size.

"Campus-based tuition is one way for us to identify critical components that are required to make this University the best that it can be for the people of North Carolina and the



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DTH FILE PHOTO



DTH/GILLIAN BOLSOVER

Nonresident tuition increases being protested at a teach-in (top left). Board of Trustees members Tim Burnett and Chairman Richard Williams (top right). Chancellor James Moeser (bottom left). Potential students who could be affected by potential increases (bottom right).

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Private funds could benefit

BY BROOK R. CORWIN
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

For decades they've remained apart.

Athletic scholarships, hundreds of which are offered each year, have been subsidized solely from private funds raised by the Department of Athletics' Educational Foundation.

Meanwhile the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid has awarded millions annually in mostly need-based aid, using money allocated from general university funds, some of which were raised through tuition increases.

Those two offices could be linked today. If the UNC Board of Trustees votes to approve the tuition increase proposal it is now

considering, almost \$1 million of the \$15 million in revenue the increase will generate will go toward merit and talent-based scholarships. That includes funds for the private Morehead and Robertson Scholars foundations.

The funds won't add to the number of scholarships awarded. But they will "hold harmless" the rising costs of paying for those scholarships, negating the impact of a \$1,500 one-year tuition increase for nonresident students.

The hold-harmless strategy has long been used at UNC to meet 100 percent of need-based aid. All campus-based tuition increases have set aside 40 percent of revenue to offset the added financial

need increases create. This year's proposed increase is no exception.

Now, for the first time, athletic and privately funded scholarships are thrown into the equation.

"It's the first time we've broadened the concept of hold harmless to include merit and talent-based scholarships," said Shirley Ort, UNC's director of scholarships and student aid.

Connecting those scholarships to tuition funds sets an uneasy precedent. A Faculty Council resolution condemning the tuition proposal uses its strongest language to express "grave concern" over breaking from UNC's practice of keeping

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ENROLLMENT

Enrollment hangs in balance

BY EMILY STEEL
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Christine Andrews said she fell in love with UNC the minute she stepped onto campus.

The University's architecture, academic programs and atmosphere caught the eye of the high school senior from Orlando, Fla. who now is waiting to hear the verdict of her application.

But Andrews, whose father is a doctor, said her enrollment at UNC is contingent upon winning a merit-based scholarship.

Her family can't afford out-of-state tuition rates inflated by the proposed increases but most likely won't be eligible for need-based aid, she said. "It is just a financial

reality," she said. "There is just not enough money there at the time being to allow me to go there."

In many ways, members of the University's governing board hold Andrews' future and the make up of UNC's out-of-state student body in their hands today as they finalize tuition increases.

Board of Trustees members are looking to push out-of-state tuition rates into the 75th percentile among public peer institutions with a \$1,500 one-year hike and a possible \$3,600 increase over several years.

Chancellor James Moeser, who supports such a hike, told the Faculty Council on Friday that he cautioned trustees not to be hasty

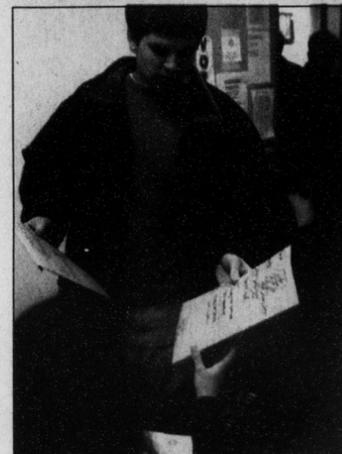
in their approach. He continued, "Nor would I recommend to the board that they embark on any more than a one-year increase for nonresident tuition until we have a chance to conduct a thorough study of the long-term effects."

While officials have crunched many numbers when crafting this proposal, no conclusive study has been conducted to predict its impact on out-of-state enrollment.

Once trustees make a decision today, officials likely will start such a study immediately. A higher education consulting firm would target potential UNC students in the study, which could cost up to

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Student elections ballot to feature 8 SBP hopefuls



DTH/KATE BLACKMAN

Junior Bret Barden turns in petitions Tuesday for SBP candidate Lily West to BOE Chairwoman Melissa Anderson.

BY ARMAN TOLENTINO
STAFF WRITER

Only three of the 18 students who declared their intentions to run for a major student office failed to submit their petitions before Tuesday afternoon's deadline.

Micheal Jones and Brian Norton decided to drop out of the student body

STUDENT ELECTIONS '04
president race, said Melissa Anderson, chairwoman of the Board of Elections.

Alexander Smith, a prospective Carolina Athletic Association president candidate, said he will run as a write-in candidate.

"I got off to a late start and wasn't able to collect the 800 signatures on time," Smith said. "I'm disappointed, but at the same time I'm excited about (getting to run as

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Bush stresses election themes

Address highlights economy, terror, marriage

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Bush, wrapping the themes of his re-election campaign in his State of the Union address, asserted Tuesday night that the United States is strengthening its economy and successfully combating terrorism. "We have not come all this way, through tragedy and trial and war, only to falter and leave our work unfinished," he said.

In a stay-the-course appeal to a joint session of Congress, Bush said the nation faced important challenges and choices.

He said it was tempting but wrong to think the danger of terrorist attacks had passed even though it has been more than two years since the country was attacked.

"We have come through recession and terrorist attack and corporate scandals and the uncertainties of war," the president told lawmakers at the opening of a campaign year.

"And because you acted to stimulate our economy with tax relief, this economy is strong and growing stronger."

Democrats were quick to take issue, noting that 2.3 million jobs have been lost under Bush, that deficits are soaring and casualties are climbing in Iraq. Democrats sat silently through most of Bush's 54-minute speech while Republicans applauded repeatedly.

Bush's speech was designed to cast him as the commander in chief, grappling with the nation's problems and above politics while Democratic rivals for his office race around the campaign trail trading charges.

With a \$500 billion budget deficit limiting his options, Bush offered a handful of modest initiatives: a \$23 million pilot plan to encourage student drug testing in public schools and a \$300 million training and placement program to help newly released prisoners find jobs.

He urged major league sports leagues and athletes to end the use of performance-enhancing drugs to set an example for young people. Their use by even a minority of elite athletes sets a dangerous example for the millions of young Americans,



COURTESY OF THE WHITE HOUSE/ERIC DRAPER

President Bush gave the State of the Union Address before Congress Tuesday night.

encouraging them to take dangerous risks with their health and safety, Bush said. He also proposed doubling federal spending on programs to promote sexual abstinence among teenagers.

Touching on a politically sensitive issue, he said he would support a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages if the courts struck down a law saying marriage should be between a man and woman.

"America this evening is a nation called to great responsibilities," the president said. "And we are rising to meet them."

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COLOR BLIND

Renowned educator calls for an end to race-based prejudice in America PAGE 3

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BALANCING ACT

Individual routines lead gymnastic team to successful finish in weekend meet PAGE 7



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MAKING MOVIES

Local man travels to Bollywood in attempt to subvert stereotypes of Indians PAGE 4

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