

Officials to tackle Congress aims to up visibility dorm-storming

BY AL KILLEFFER
STAFF WRITER

Student government leaders are scheduled to meet with University officials this morning, with one of the top items on the agenda being regulations regarding dorm-storming.

Although the acquisition of votes via door-to-door solicitation became a hot topic during the presidential election, when organizations such as VoteCarolina chafed under the University's facility-use policies that prohibit the practice, voter registration will not be the meeting's focus.

"(We're) looking to examine the policies as they stand now," said Student Body President Matt Calabria, saying student government campaigns will begin at the start of spring semester. "(We want to) make sure we're on the same page."

Unlike voter registration drives, which sparked the recent controversy, students are permitted to go door to door for student campaigns.

One of the University's policies concerning dorm-storming in student campaigns stipulates that only a certain number of students can be in a given residence hall at a given time. Student leaders are wondering whether the administration will want to increase or decrease that number and what the penalties will be for those who violate the policy.

"All those questions are on the table," Calabria said.

Officials scheduled to attend the meeting include a representative from the Office of University

Counsel; Margaret Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs; and Christopher Payne, director of housing and residential education.

While dorm-storming won't be the central issue, Calabria said, he and his constituents also will inquire about the reasoning behind the University's opposition to dorm-storming for voter registration.

Payne maintained that the University's policies exist for students' well being.

"Our door-to-door solicitation policy is based on respecting privacy and the protection of students who live in campus housing," he said.

VoteCarolina Chairman Amon Anderson, whom Calabria credits for making the topic of voter registration such an important issue, also will be in attendance.

"I understand the drawbacks of allowing dorm-storming," Anderson said. "But I don't think it's responsible to prohibit it without providing a viable alternative."

Face-to-face contact is the most effective way to activate other students, he added, saying that if the University is to prohibit the practice, officials bear the burden of creating a comparable option.

Judith Wegner, chairwoman of the faculty and another outspoken proponent of door-to-door solicitation, said universities are legally bound to make a good-faith effort to encourage students to vote.

Like Anderson, Wegner recognized that door-to-door solicitation raises serious security and privacy concerns. But she maintains that "if there was a desire to explore the issue more fully, (one) could find a solution."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Campus Y to relocate, anticipate renovation

Operations to be moved to Union

BY CAROLINE KORNEGAY
STAFF WRITER

Beginning next year, the historic but crumbling Campus Y will undergo renovations to update the building for a new generation of students.

When construction starts, Campus Y staffers will take up temporary offices in the Student Union until the work is completed.

"We'll be a little cramped for a while, but there will be a lot of pluses," said Derwin Dubose, Campus Y co-president.

The new offices will be located across the hall from student government, and the proximity to student leaders will help foster a better working relationship, Dubose said.

Virginia Carson, director of the Campus Y, said she is excited about the restoration project. "I'm trying not to get carried away."

Since the cornerstone was laid in 1904, the Campus Y building has been a focal point of campus activity. But the structure since has become worn from decades of use by thousands of students.

After recent flooding in the basement, mold is eating away at the building's wooden frames.

Rails on the stairs are burnished from the countless hands that have run over them through the years.

Chunks of plaster are missing in the stairwell, and beige paint is peeling from the walls.

"It needs the renovation so badly," Carson said. "It'll be fun to be in a new place for a while."

Renovations might start as early as March, and officials predict completion by Nov. 15, 2005.

"The renovation should start probably late spring, early summer," said Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for planning and construction.

Architecture firm Pearce, Brinkley, Cease and Lee of Raleigh is almost done with the project's design.

Drafts feature a sidewalk cafe, a new library on the third floor and new seminar rooms and work spaces for students.

"I think the whole campus will benefit from it and be glad we did it," Carson said.

"We won't have quite as much visibility," Carson said of the organization's new Student Union suite, but she added that group now will be close to the center of the University.

Projected costs for the renovations are about \$4.4 million.

The University will provide \$1 million of the funds, and the rest will come from donations the organization raises, Runberg said.

Still, one thing will be lacking in the Student Union, Dubose said.

"I think everyone's going to miss the snack bar."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Members hit Pit seeking outreach

BY KRISTLE SPELLMAN
STAFF WRITER

Decked out in "86th Student Congress" T-shirts, representatives sat from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Pit in an effort to reach out to their constituents.

The Outreach Committee of Student Congress organized the event to afford students the opportunity to meet the people who represent their particular districts.

"The problem is that people recognize branch leaders but don't necessarily know who their representatives are," said Outreach Committee Chairwoman Emma Hodson.

Hodson said the event was intended to help students put a name with a face for their representatives, who are directly elected according to district.

Congress members said they have held forums in the past with the same goal in mind, but they were not always successful because it is difficult to get students to attend the events.

"If students don't let us know what they are concerned about, we have to just try to act in the best interest of the students," Rep. Stephen Lassiter, District 3, said while sitting at the Pit table.

"This is about the best we can do, just put ourselves out here so they can come and tell us what they are concerned about," he said.

Hodson said that the event was successful and that she was surprised by the number of students who came out to talk to them early in the day.

Robin Graham, a sophomore sociology major, stumbled upon



Freshman Uzma Panjwani (right) reads a flier given to her by Luke Farley (left), a member of Student Congress. On Tuesday, Congress members sat in the Pit in an event aimed at reaching out to hear constituents' concerns.

the event while walking through the Pit.

"I didn't even know we had representatives for each district," she said. "It was nice to see their faces and know that there are people working for you."

Graham said she believed that the event benefited students who still are unfamiliar with their representatives.

"I thought the event was helpful," she said. "I think it is especially helpful for freshmen that didn't know who their representative was."

Representatives said that during the event, students asked how they could become involved with Congress.

Some students wanted to know more about how funds are allocated and exactly what kinds of things for which Congress is responsible, members said.

Rep. Caroline Spencer, District 4, said she feels connected to her constituents.

Because Granville Towers, her district, is such a tight-knit community, she said, most people know that she is one of their rep-

resentatives. Rep. Luke Farley, who serves as chairman of the Rules & Judiciary Committee, said events like these help representatives connect with students and might continue in the future.

"This (event) is kind of like taking Congress to the next level," he said.

"Depending on the success of this event, we may have more next semester."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Take birth control off your mind and just keep it on you.

Ortho Evra® The only once-a-week birth control patch.

The Ortho Evra® Patch is as effective as The Pill (99% when used correctly). It's whisper-thin. Wear it on your bottom, upper arm, tummy or back. Shower, swim, exercise. The Patch stays put. You put on a new patch once a week for three weeks each month. Then go patch-free the fourth week when you get your period. It's that simple. Ortho Evra® is now the #1 prescribed birth control brand. Have any questions? See your health-care professional or contact us. 1-866-715-1650 www.orthoevra.com On your body. Off your mind.

(Actual Size)

(Actual Thickness)

Ortho Evra®
(norelgestromin/ethinyl estradiol transdermal system)

SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING PAGE.

PLEASE READ IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: The contraceptive patch contains hormones similar to those in birth control pills. Hormonal contraceptives are not for everybody. Most side effects of the contraceptive patch are not serious and those that are, occur infrequently. Serious risks, which can be life threatening, include blood clots, stroke or heart attacks and are increased if you smoke cigarettes. Cigarette smoking increases the risk of serious cardiovascular side effects, especially if you are over 35. Women who use hormonal contraceptives are strongly advised not to smoke. Some women should not use the contraceptive patch, including women who have blood clots, certain cancers, a history of heart attack or stroke, as well as those who are or may be pregnant. The contraceptive patch does not protect against HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases.