

TUITION

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don't want to equate a couple of numbers on the board to your personal value," Lucido said.

The term "value" held strong connotations for many out-of-state students, as they related, in varying degrees, the premier value of a UNC education that drew them to the school in the first place.

A willingness to sacrifice more monetarily than in-state students is a consideration that many non-residents hope Calabria keeps in mind when he will endorse, before the Board of Trustees, a \$350 tuition increase for in-state students and a \$800 increase for out-of-state students — the option with the smallest margin between residents and nonresidents.

The elasticity study completed earlier this year quantifies market receptivity to University initiatives and sensitivity to changes in

tuition costs. Emerging from the study was a strong commitment to balancing public policy.

"For in-state students, we have to be as inexpensive as we can be without sacrificing quality of education," Lucido said. "For out-of-state students, we want to deliver value, but we're also one of the best."

While UNC has raised its in-state tuition at a rate that is lower in comparison to state competitors and still has a long way to go before price becomes an issue for in-state students, the fate of nonresidents is not so secure, Lucido said.

In his closing remarks, Calabria emphasized the importance of student presence at the upcoming trustee meetings.

"What I say, which will be reflected by the tenor of what you said here, is amplified by the people that are there."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

STUDENT FEES

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BOT. "But considering the goals of the institution, I think this could be a reasonable request to students."

Wegner developed the proposal in part because of an elasticity study released this year underscoring the importance of increasing merit-based scholarships at UNC.

"We are losing a lot of in-state students that we would like to have to other institutions, and what we hear most often is that it's because we can't offer them some kind of merit scholarship," said Shirley Ort, associate provost and director of scholarships and student aid.

Of all scholarship and aid money awarded for the 2004-05 school year, 4 percent went toward merit scholarships, and the remaining 96 percent funded need-based

scholarships.

The total \$3,053,340 allowed for 290 scholarships, including the competitive Morehead and Robertson scholarships.

Low coaching salaries and funding shortcomings for Olympic sports teams contributed to a financial need in the athletic department.

"On the balance sheet, there is serious reason for serious concern," said Student Body President Matt Calabria.

The group ultimately decided that the proposal opposes the purpose of student fees and that sufficient time wasn't allowed for review.

The Chancellor's Committee on Student Fees will meet today to finalize the suggestion before the BOT's Wednesday meeting.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Parents target trials of raising teens

School groups connect to community

BY SAM SHEPARD

STAFF WRITER

Local high school organizations sponsored a forum Monday night, with the goal of educating parents about different ways to communicate effectively with their teenagers.

The parent-teacher student associations and school governance committees of both Chapel Hill-Carrboro City high schools sponsored "Helping Parents Help Our Teens," to help parents face many of the issues of raising a teen.

"The difficulty of raising a teen is a common problem," said Henry Greenside, organizer of the forum and member of both the PTSA and SGC at East Chapel Hill High. "Many parents don't have the skills to know what to do."

The PTSA and SGC at each

school typically sponsor several smaller forums each school year.

But Monday's forum included several participants from both high schools and the community — a trend they hope to continue in the future, Greenside said.

Greenside recruited several prominent figures from the schools and community to give recommendations and information for parents and to answer audience questions during the forum.

The panelists included Mauricio Castro, founder of El Centro Latino in Carrboro; Anson Dorrance, head coach of the UNC women's soccer team; and Calvin Allen, former associate director of the Dispute Settlement Center of Orange County.

Ruby Bugg, a student assistance specialist at East Chapel Hill

High, emphasized the importance of responsibility in her five-minute presentation to the audience.

"Do not take ownership for every decision your child makes (because) it's part of growing up. ... There are different choices, and they have different costs," she said. "It's what you do after those mistakes and how you use that to go forward."

Another concept Bugg and the other panelists stressed was the need for parents to create a plan of action with their teens about how they will approach issues that might arise.

"Have a plan before you need it," she said. "Talk to your kids when you don't need to. Don't wait until things happen."

And most parents were enthusiastic about what the panel said.

Michael Williamson, father of a 16-year-old at East Chapel Hill High, said he hopes to implement some of the recommendations made at the forum.

"The challenge we are facing is not unique to my daughter or my family. There are lots of other people in the same boat," he said. "We got access to some ideas that we're gonna try."

The panel members stressed the need to approach parental communication with their teens from various angles.

"We need to be a team: parents, the school and your child," said Mary Gratch, a student counselor at Chapel Hill High and parent of two high-school students.

Gratch said she benefits from having the ability to have a dual perspective as a parent and counselor.

"It's extra motivation that it's my community. ... These parents are my peers. It doesn't feel like a conflict (of interest), it makes it more important to me."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

YD FORUM

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ment," Whilden said.

Dearmin, former co-chairman for the executive branch's public service and advocacy committee, said he believes his student government experience makes him a good choice. He is looking to improve the campus advising system and strengthen the programs that already work.

"Attitude and experience are definitely the two things that set me apart," Dearmin said.

Candidate Leigha Blackwell devised her platform after conducting a survey of 600 students to learn their top concerns. She wants to focus her attention on communication and collaboration.

"We need to use what we have and bring it to its fullest potential," she said.

Ballard said he believes his vision of making the University one of the best in the nation is synonymous with that of the entire campus.

"The fact that my platform has a more forward-looking vision for this University sets me apart from the other candidates," Ballard said.

Candidates said they are eager for the opportunity to present their platforms at future forums, such as the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies' forum tonight at 7:30 p.m. in their meeting room of New East.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

ILLINOIS

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next few months.

In 2003, Illinois state lawmakers required public universities to implement the plan by fall 2004.

The state also gave the 12 Illinois campuses the freedom to set their own tuition rates and extend their guaranteed-tuition policies to graduate students.

Illinois legislators said that since different campuses have particular needs, statewide stipulations would do more harm than good.

The premise of the Illinois legislation was that guaranteed tuition saves students money, but many say that's inaccurate.

"They aren't getting a financial break; they're just getting financial security," Eakman said.

In the first year two years, students with guaranteed tuition pay more than those without.

But during the third year, they pay less.

In the end, the price is virtually the same.

At UIC, in-state students without guaranteed tuition paid \$2,645 for fall 2004.

Incoming freshmen with a set tuition rate paid \$2,841.

Eakman said it is too early to accurately predict the effects of the plan.

But Andrew Hollingsead, a student member of the UI Board of Trustees, was quick to point out negative effects of the plan.

Since students with guaranteed tuition pay higher rates in their first two years, students who transfer out of the university system never end up receiving the pay break that comes in the last two years.

"If you are only there two years, really, you're paying more," Hollingsead said.

He also mentioned the difficulty of projecting future rates of tuition based on the year's budget situation.

The fiscal needs of a university might change abruptly within four years, he said.

"If we have a problem with really requiring the university to project over four years what their fiscal situation is going to be," Hollingsead said.

For now, the BOG is weighing all the advantages and disadvantages of the program.

"It certainly would be a positive thing to be able to say to students and their parents that you are going to be guaranteed the same tuition during a four-year period," Phillips said.

"If we could do that, I think people would appreciate it."

Contact the State & National Editor at statedesk@unc.edu.

CAA REPORT

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Strunk reiterated that point, saying most CAA events cost more than \$200. "I do not feel the oversight in their reforms is appropriate," she said. "The planning process and functionality of the group could be damaged."

The athletics committee also will introduce the possible forming of a ticket distribution committee to review the process each year, Winslett said.

The biggest complaint from students regarding ticket distribution is the early morning line check-in, said CAA presidential candidate Hayes Holderness. "The line check has become obsolete because people just leave afterward," he said.

Justin Johnson, the other CAA presidential hopeful, said he hopes the group will cut back the number of tickets it receives to only those who actually distribute bracelets.

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