

# 2 programs might see 2nd-term budget cuts

## Bush to release proposal next week

BY AMY EAGLEBURGER  
STAFF WRITER

In response to the ballooning federal deficit, President Bush is going to have to find ways to cut back costs in his 2006 budget.

But many say the place to cut funding is not education.

"I haven't seen the president's budget, but we are certainly disheartened about the possibility that so many good education programs may be cut," said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla.

Two college-access programs, Upward Bound and Talent Search, might not receive funding if the president's proposal — to be released next week — goes through.

The programs provide resources for low-income and disadvantaged students whose family histories often do not include college graduates.

More than 950 Upward Bound and 500 Talent Search offices exist nationwide. UNC boasts an Upward Bound office, and both programs have offices at N.C. State University.

"In the case of Upward Bound, they do get academic support, and for both programs they get some guidance as to how to choose the right school, how to go about looking for financial aid," said Susan Trebach, vice president for communications at the Council for Opportunity in Education.

"These are programs that help students become productive, tax-paying citizens."

The idea of completely eliminating the programs for thousands of students alarms those who say such cuts will directly affect the ability of many students to attend post-secondary schools.

"It's a pathway that the government has created, and now it's going to be unavailable," Trebach said. "I am certain there will be some students who will not go to college because they won't have the assistance of these programs."

Both programs were created in the 1960s as a part of President Johnson's "Great Society" reforms. They are based on college campuses and serve as resource centers for

surrounding communities.

The programs are a part of TRIO, a larger organization that also provides student support services and educational opportunity centers.

"TRIO programs have been the staple for a good 30, 35 years, and in that regard these programs continue to be very important for the students that they serve," said Hector Garza, president of the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships.

Action against any proposed cut of the programs has yet to begin because the proposal is neither official nor public at this time. Passage of the president's budget also depends on whether Congress will approve it.

"That's a question that is hard to answer and unpredictable because it is really going to depend on the political will of the Congress to continue a program that the president has slated for elimination," Garza said.

The Department of Education refused comment on the possibility of the elimination of the programs from the budget until the document is formally released.

Trebach said she thinks lobbying against such a cut will occur once it becomes an official proposal. Ros-Lehtinen is already planning to do so.

"It is going to be difficult, but I am optimistic that we will get a lot of members that will be helping us," she said. "I just don't know if we will be successful."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## FORUM

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ing the right problems.

"We are going to work on things like ticket distributions, having condoms in all buildings and blue lights on campus to ensure safety," he said.

Blackwell said the goal of her platform is to connect UNC's resources so organizations can maximize their productivity.

"One of our ideas is a Web site — 'Blue Pages' — to provide a central location to find links to student organizations and answers to frequently asked questions," Blackwell said.

Jensen said the biggest goal of his campaign is to allow students to get "more for their money."

"I'm not real happy with the way student government has been running during my time at Carolina," Jensen said.

"I want us to be outraged when our tuition gets raised and send messages to the (decision-makers) that it's not OK."

Ballard said his platform is characterized by a complete plan to attack tuition increases, reopen campus computer labs and work to establish an endowed distinguished speakers series.

"Bringing in speakers brings an outside perspective that challenges

*"I want us to be outraged when our tuition gets raised and send messages ... that it's not OK."*

TOM JENSEN, SBP CANDIDATE

what we think in our microcosm," Ballard said.

"This is how revolutions happen. We need to increase challenging ourselves."

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## STUDENT FEES

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more funding that it receives, they ultimately decided that merit-based scholarships and athletic funding should be examined as separate issues.

Margaret Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs and a committee member, said more research should be done to find the best solutions to what she agreed are pressing issues.

"This might be one solution, but we don't know what the other solutions might be," she said.

The committee also decided to recommend more discussion about increasing the fee for the 2006-07 school year. Leaders are in the process of putting their recommendations down on paper.

Although Wegner's plan didn't receive the support of either committee, she still plans to present it to the trustees' University Affairs Committee today.

"I don't have any presumption about their taking action," she said. "I really want to at least put the concepts out on the table."

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## ASG

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times over in tuition increases."

Some have questioned the chances of making the change, but Jensen said a referendum vote on the issue would probably garner 70 percent to 80 percent of student support. Such a statement would force the University's Board of Trustees and the UNC-system Board of Governors to heed the voice of the student body.

"With our tuition going up and up and up, I'm sure students want as little money wasted as possible," Jensen said.

His opponents agree that the funds are misspent, but they believe UNC-CH leadership could encourage fiscal restraint.

SBP candidate Seth Dearmin said that the flagship university has a responsibility to other campuses and that abandoning the ASG would set a bad example.

"Cutting and running is not the best option," he said.

Candidate Seke Ballard said he thinks UNC-CH is a powerful institution with the ability to influence where ASG funds go.

He compared the relationship to that of the United States and

the United Nations, saying that the University should reallocate the funds instead of removing them altogether.

"I think it's hypocritical asking the ASG to work (in UNC-CH's interest) with the budget that UNC (wouldn't be) a part of," he said.

Dearmin and Ballard both want to use much of the association's funds for lobbying, encouraging legislators to act on behalf of students.

Leigha Blackwell, who also is running for SBP, said she too supports looking critically at ASG spending.

"I agree with (Jensen) ... that it's time for a re-evaluation of where the money is going," she said.

"I'm sure the ASG could have a more effective use of the funds given."

Jensen said it's doubtful such a use exists. He claims that the ASG's performance hasn't improved since the fees were first gathered during the 2002-03 school year.

"The ASG has failed to accomplish anything for UNC in the past three years."

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## ANNEXATION

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revolved around a 17-year-old joint planning agreement, which outlines into what town unincorporated areas would be annexed.

"That's good government," Mayor Mike Nelson said Tuesday morning. "It's very rare in North Carolina for governments to make explicit their plans that far in advance."

But Nelson acknowledged the possibility that legal action could be

taken by the town's new residents.

"It's almost become part of the process," he said.

After Tuesday's meeting, that possibility was all but assured.

At least one resident says he plans to file a lawsuit against the town to reverse the decision.

Rudolph Ryan, who lives in the Highlands neighborhood of Area A, said he and other neighborhood leaders plan to file suit within the next three to four weeks.

"The legal remedy is the sound-

est remedy at this point," he said.

During the meeting, the aldermen also adopted resolutions to support citizens who are annexed.

Those resolutions include the allocation of funds to assist households in connecting with the Orange Water and Sewer Authority.

Members also approved a motion, which asks town staff to secure a location for a fire station in the newest area of the town.

If town staffers do not find a location by June 7, the town will be

able to acquire property through eminent domain, which allows municipalities to condemn property for use by the local government.

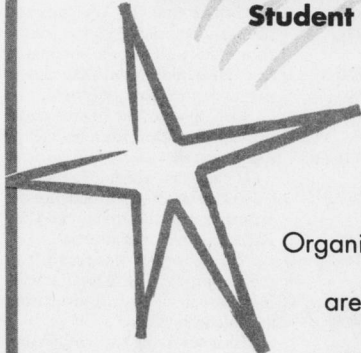
But all these provisions are subject to the outcome of Ryan's lawsuit, which could lengthen the timeline for the process.

"We'll take it as far as we have to — all the way to the North Carolina Supreme Court," Ryan said.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# UCS Internship Fair

Thurs., Jan 27, 2005 10:00am - 3:00pm  
Student Union, Great Hall



Organizations from a variety of employment areas, such as business and industry, government and non-profits will be represented. Employers will be present to discuss internship opportunities locally and across the United States. Currently enrolled University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to attend.

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