

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 112, ISSUE 136

www.dthonline.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005

THE PRICE OF POWER

BOT MEMBERS PONDER TUITION INCREASES, SET UNC-CHAPEL HILL APART FROM SYSTEM

BY EMILY STEEL
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Matt Calabria has ventured into a territory from which few student body presidents have returned successfully.

As the University's governing board reconvenes this morning, Calabria continues to wage a last-minute protest to convince the Board of Trustees to strike a balance between the University's needs and reasonable increases in nonresident tuition.

It has been five years since then-Student Body President Nic Heinke successfully persuaded the board to reduce campus-based tuition increases, and today's events will determine whether or not Calabria can live up to those standards.

The board's Audit and Finance Committee responded to his efforts Wednesday, approving a proposal to increase campus-based tuition \$250 for in-state students and \$1,000 for out-of-state students.

Several committee members walked into the meeting favoring an increase of \$250 for N.C. resi-

dents and \$1,200 for nonresident students — one of the three options recommended by the Tuition Task Force and the proposal supported by Chancellor James Moeser.

But after listening to students testify about the detrimental message such an increase might send to the out-of-state student population, committee members downshifted their figures.

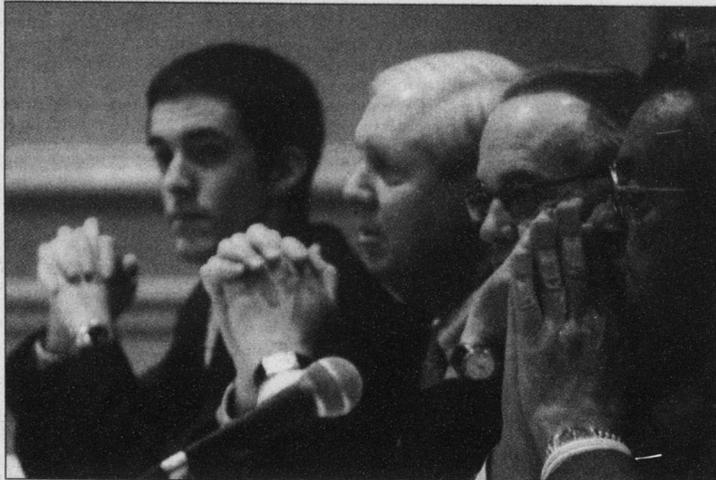
"It was a very big step," Calabria said. "The board recognized these significant concerns."

When crafting tuition policy, officials are trying to meet the needs of four top priorities identified by the Tuition Task Force. These include funding need-based aid, faculty salaries, teaching assistant salaries and new faculty positions.

"These are the big four, but the fifth priority is keeping out-of-state tuition reasonable," Calabria said, noting that he will continue his efforts today to reduce the increase in nonresident tuition to \$800.

As the committee debated which tuition option

SEE TUITION, PAGE 4



DTH/MIRANDA HARPLE

Student Body President Matt Calabria and members of the University's governing board discuss tuition increases Wednesday. The BOT committee shaved \$200 from its proposal for nonresidents.



DTH/LAURA MORTON

Renan Snowden, a senior from Washington, D.C., presented her concerns about the effect rising tuition has on out-of-state students to members of the Board of Trustees' Audit and Finance Committee on Wednesday. Further tuition increases could present a problem for families that do not qualify for need-based aid.

"We may not be native North Carolinians, but we are outstanding scholars, athletes and leaders who love Carolina. ... This is not just your average state school."

RENAN SNOWDEN

Nonresidents want place at table

BY LINDSAY MICHEL ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

A gentle force, Renan Snowden might have swayed some members of the University's governing board Wednesday.

Snowden, a senior from Washington, D.C., presented her perspective on the effects of successive tuition hikes on out-of-state students and the middle class.

"When I look at the daunting disparity between the proposed increases for residents and nonresidents, I'm relieved that I don't have to worry about affording another year at Carolina," she told members of the Board of Trustees' Audit and Finance

Committee.

Though Snowden receives a grant tailored to Washington, D.C., residents attending public institutions, the overall cost of her tuition remains higher than the \$3,205 in-state students paid in 2004-05.

Her concerns have been echoed by out-of-state students looking at a potential increase of \$1,200 for the coming year — on top of the \$16,303 they already pay.

And it appears that their worries haven't fallen on deaf ears. During today's meeting, the committee approved a recommendation for a \$1,000 increase for nonresidents — a hike brought down by \$200 after members heard Snowden's testimony.

The full board will vote today on the proposal,

which includes a \$250 tuition increase for in-state students.

"I don't feel we are going to do any significant damage to the quality of the incoming class," Trustee Paul Fulton said.

But successive tuition hikes that have hit nonresidents particularly hard leave out-of-state students wondering about the University's commitment to them. Out-of-state students have begun to refer to themselves as commodities, cash cows and tuition targets, said Charlie Anderson, speaker of Student Congress and an N.C. resident.

With job losses and pay cuts plaguing the mid-

SEE NONRESIDENT, PAGE 4

Jensen grabs BSM support

BY KATIE HOFFMANN
STAFF WRITER

Student body president candidate Tom Jensen nabbed his second major endorsement in three days Wednesday.

After much deliberation, members of the Black Student Movement endorsed Jensen for the office at their candidates forum.

"The major echo in the room was that Tom had already established his name in a diverse array of people," said BSM Treasurer Conitras Houston. "He's well-rounded in his establishment."

The endorsement was the second in a series of forums designed to expose the candidates to the student body. Jensen won the Young Democrats' endorsement Monday.

"We're looking for a balance," said BSM Vice President Brandon Hodges. "We had to choose a candidate who realized that we are minorities, but we're also students who care about every other issue on this campus."



DTH/JUSTIN SMITH

SBP candidate Tom Jensen speaks at a forum hosted by the Black Student Movement on Wednesday evening. The BSM endorsed Jensen.

SEE BSM, PAGE 4

Black snags 4th term as speaker

BY EMMA BURGIN
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

RALEIGH — The representatives seated in the rear of the N.C. House on Wednesday were determined to be heard.

Twenty Republicans — 14 of them seated in the back row of the chamber — voted against Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, as sole speaker of the House.

Black still garnered enough votes — 100 in all — to assume the role for a record-tying fourth time during the first day of the N.C. General Assembly, ending a two-year power-share between Democrats and Republicans.

After the 2004 elections, the Democrats held a six-vote majority in the chamber, 63-57.

After one week of stalemate in 2003,



Jim Black won the support of 100 members of the House in his bid to be the chamber's sole speaker.



Former Speaker Richard Morgan will wield power in the form of chairman assignments.

the House elected two co-speakers, Black and Rep. Richard Morgan, R-Moore.

"The relationship they built up ... has given both of them some confidence that they can make (a coalition government) work," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

The first step to creating this coalition government was the historic move of giving Morgan the second-in-command position

— speaker pro tem.

The slot, in the past, almost always has been given to a high-ranking majority member.

"This 2005 session brings a new twist in the

SEE LEGISLATURE, PAGE 4

dive
ONLINE

DIVERSIONS

The second week of the DTH's latest online feature comes complete with an arts calendar and some new tweaks. The print version begins on page 5.

SPORTS

SPLISH-SPLASH

UNC swimmers and divers recover from hard losses against Virginia to take out East Carolina **PAGE 13**

WEATHER

TODAY Sunny, H 40, L 17
FRIDAY Sunny, H 39, L 16
SATURDAY Wintry mix, H 33, L 31

