

BOG continues tuition program

NCSSM students to keep waivers

BY HALLEY KUEFFER
STAFF WRITER

The UNC-system Board of Governors decided last week to continue the program that gives free tuition at system schools to graduates of the N.C. School of Science and Math.

System officials think the program will improve the quality of students who graduate from state universities by keeping graduates of the Durham magnet school, which attracts some of the state's brightest students, in North Carolina.

"The goal is to keep more bright students here," said Gretchen Bataille, UNC-system senior vice president for academic affairs.

Bataille said the merit-based tuition waivers also encourage more competition among prospec-

tive NCSSM students.

Applications to NCSSM increased by 43 percent from 2004 to 2005, an increase that could stem from the tuition grant program, according to a report by the UNC-system Office of the President.

In fall 2004, 190 graduates from NCSSM enrolled in UNC-system schools. And 121 of these students benefit from the NCSSM Tuition Grant Program.

The reason for the discrepancy is that the state's 2004 Technical Corrections Act limits the amount of grant money students can get if the funding they receive from other sources exceeds the overall cost of tuition.

The BOG said last week that it would like to reform this aspect of the waiver.

"Students with the greatest financial need don't benefit because the grant is only for tuition," Bataille said.

"If they get a Pell Grant, they cannot benefit from this grant."

The policy also does not benefit lower-income graduates, who cannot afford the costs of a college education, according to the report.

But the program is not without opposition.

"The whole thing is a bad idea," said George Leef, executive director of the John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy. "It cannot be improved; it needs to simply be dropped."

Leef helped author a report from the Pope Center on Jan. 26 that called the grant program unfair.

He added that the program offers no benefits to the economy or the labor market of North Carolina.

But NCSSM officials say students

leave their homes at a younger age and enter a strenuous academic environment — making them valid targets of a tuition waiver.

"Students make a lot of sacrifices," said Craig Rowe, director for communications for NCSSM. "I see these tuition programs as UNC-system talent identification."

Proponents of the program also argue that after graduating from a UNC-system school, a majority of Science and Math will remain in North Carolina to pursue a job.

"Students meet connections in-state, and this helps you decide where to get a job," Rowe said.

But Leef said students won't turn away jobs from outside the state because they graduated from a system school.

"The top students are unlikely to want to stay in North Carolina."

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

GPSF

FROM PAGE 1

the past few years but that there still is room for improvement.

"I think we've made great strides over the last two years," he said. "We're positioned to improve next year."

Bushman's initiatives for sparking the growth of the GPSF included paying attention to parking on campus, tuition and teaching assistant stipends, along with sending newsletters and fostering

conversation in online forums.

"The GPSF is here to help," she said. "We've started something that can only get bigger."

Parker Wiseman, GPSF vice president for internal affairs, praised the group, calling his time with the organization "an absolute joy."

"I was so pleased ... to find this great community of students," he said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

GRADES

FROM PAGE 1

gested creating a mean grade point average of 2.7 for all departments. As enforcement, those that failed to maintain this average would receive budget sanctions.

Gordon said the committee never gave the suggestion serious consideration, and is now focusing on in-depth methods of evaluation.

"This year, we are focusing not on whether grades are getting higher — they have been increasing slowly but not dramatically over the years — but on some disparities in grading practices," he said.

Gordon said differences in grading practices are obvious. The issue, he said, is determining whether these disparities breed inequality.

Judith Wegner, chairwoman of the faculty, said she recognizes the difficulty of creating a University-wide solution.

"There are different faculty, different courses, different studies

and different scenarios, so it's hard to create uniformity," she said.

Wegner said the Faculty Council continues to discuss other means of measuring academic progress and accomplishment by evaluating students on what they have learned and what skills they have mastered.

The policy committee suggested a grade-ranking system to augment the current grading system. Similar to the Ratings Percentage Index used in college sports, this system would rank student performance against classmates to get a better performance assessment.

Gordon said students should not be penalized for taking classes with teachers who grade more harshly.

"If you want to extend the metaphor, students should be judged not just by wins and losses, but also by the strength of their schedule," he said. "We're just trying to find ways of evening the playing field."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

Theta.

"Before the band started, Doug worked for a fraternity and heard Willie Hargraves' band play," said his brother John Clark, the band's saxophonist.

There, Doug Clark first heard the song that would become his band's name and trademark.

"He heard the song 'Hot Nuts,'" John Clark said. "Everywhere we go people ask for that song, and they add verses."

Fellow band member Prince Taylor began singing for the group in 1959 and continued on and off for 28 years.

"The real song is called 'Jada,'" Taylor said of "Hot Nuts." "We made up some verses, just suggestive stuff, nothing rough."

"Then the students would add verses, and the song got rougher."

The band developed a repertoire of popular R&B tunes and humorous musical sketches, which it adapted according to its musical venue.

"Wednesdays and Thursdays were for the clubs, Fridays and Saturdays

were for the college," John Clark said. "We did R&B at the clubs and more comedy at the colleges."

The band's style and history helped give it a unique place in the community.

"I believe there weren't any other black bands around here that I know of," Taylor said.

Battle said he remembers the band well. "Everyone knew them."

Though the band's rise to prominence coincided with the beginning of the integration movement, John Clark recalls the band being well-received locally and in other colleges throughout the South.

"We probably played at 200 colleges and universities before the movement even started," John Clark said. "We played colleges in Mississippi, Alabama, all over. Colleges were fine."

"Travel situations and places to eat outside the colleges were a problem."

When segregation closed doors, many fraternities were happy to help the band out. Members helped find black families to board the band, or even hosted the band in their fraternity houses.

"We didn't consider it trouble

because it was all we knew," Taylor said. "Doug wouldn't take a whole lot of junk back then."

Battle said he saw the band perform at his alma mater, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University.

"I think they preferred playing at the fraternities," Battle said. "The fraternities got more into the dialogue and the lyrics."

And these lyrics helped contribute to the band's reputation.

"Hot Nuts" was very risqué at the time," John Clark said. "What we did was before its time."

"People who have seen the movie 'Animal House' say we should have been in the movie 'Animal House.'"

Taylor said the students' energy added to the tone of the shows.

"You know, it was the sorority girls who added the dirtiest jokes to 'Hot Nuts,'" he said.

The band recorded nine albums, but some radio stations and record labels would not play their music.

Their albums, released on the independent Gross Records label, sold entirely by word of mouth.

"They never had any major top 10 records or anything," Battle said. "But we'd see a lot of them."

"It wasn't like Ray Charles com-

ing to town, but they were very popular."

The Hot Nuts' popularity continues to span generations.

They still appear at the occasional fraternity party, but more recently, their main gigs have been weddings and reunions, John Clark said.

"We play for people who remembered us from years past," Clark said. "Now when we play for kids, they tell us their mom and dad loved us, and they'll call them during the party."

The band also has a scholarship named in its honor.

After Doug Clark's passing in 2002, University alumnus Mike Haley gave \$25,000 to the University to create the Doug Clark "Thanks for the Memories" scholarship fund to honor Clark's legendary place in campus history.

Haley noted Doug Clark's legend in a spring 2003 edition of Carolina Connections, a newsletter of the Office of University Development.

"Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts are as much a part of Chapel Hill as Frank McGuire and Dean Smith."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

T-SHIRTS • SWEATS • T-SHIRTS

NUMBERS

The Printery

Licensed for UNC Trademark.

Fine Quality Screenprinting

1201 Raleigh Road • Suite 102 • Chapel Hill, NC 27517
(919) 942-4764 • (919) 942-7553
qualitees@mindspring.com

T-SHIRTS

SWEATS

T-SHIRTS

TOTES

LOW FAT • NO MSG

35

Chinese Restaurant
Chapel Hill

WITH UNC STUDENT ID GET \$1 OFF DINNER BUFFET!

35 Chinese has the best variety of Chinese food around. You can choose from over 50 items on our Super Buffet, or order from the extensive menu.

Lunch 11am-2:30pm
Friday/Saturday Dinner 4:30pm-10pm
Sunday-Thursday Dinner 4:30pm-9:30pm

143 W. Franklin Street • Chapel Hill • 919.968.3488 • www.citysearch.com/rd/35 • fax 919.968.0268

FREE DELIVERY

THIS WEEKEND AT CAROLINA

Saturday, February 19

Men's Basketball vs. Clemson

1pm - Dean Smith Center

Amerge SPORTS SHORTS

Fantastic 4!

4 Bedrooms
3.5 Bath
\$1800
Great floor plan

100 Raven Lane

- Large front yard
- Ample parking
- Washer & dryer
- Convenient location
- Over 1800 sq ft
- Available June 1st

Plenty of space both inside and out!

Visit our website today and see more info about all our houses.

Renting to students for over 15 years!

TAR HEEL RENTALS

www.TarHeelRentals.com

Panera BREAD

Chill with your friends!
Hearty Sandwiches!
Delicious Soups!
Freshly Tossed Salads!
Espresso Drinks!
Bagels, Breads + Pastries!

213 W. Franklin Street
Just in front of Granville Towers

Phone - 929-9189
Fax - 929-9186

Mon-Thurs 6:30AM-9PM
Fri/Sat 6:30AM-10PM
Sunday 7:30AM-9PM

Free Bagel

With purchase of any Espresso Drink, I.C. Drink, or Hot Chocolate.

Save \$1.00

On any Sandwich, Salad or "You-Pick-Two."

Valid at Panera Bread locations in the Triangle. Valid through March 11, 2005.

THE SIENA HOTEL

- Luxury European-style boutique hotel
- Fine dining Italian restaurant, bar and lounge
- Minutes from campus

Now accepting guestroom reservations for **Graduation 2006!**

1505 E Franklin Street Chapel Hill NC 27514
(919) 929-4000 www.sienahotel.com

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA

SB 05

Why we're known as the **FUN PLACE!**

- 1000 Feet of Gulf Beach Frontage
- Lazy River Ride
- Twin Turbo Waterslide
- 2 Outdoor Pools
- Indoor Heated Pool Inside an Atrium Dome
- Huge Gullside Hot Tub
- Jet Ski & Parasail Rentals
- Tons of Sponsors with Giveaways!
- Suites for Up to 10 People
- Mini Golf Course
- Gift Shop
- Kitchens with Microwaves and Coffeemakers, Room Phones, Remote Controlled Cable TV
- And Much More!

World Famous **11th Bar** **Daily Donuts**

World's largest and longest leg party. Free draft beer all week long.

SANDPIPER BEACON BEACH RESORT

17403 FRONT BEACH ROAD
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32413

CALL NOW FOR RESERVATIONS!
1.800.488.8828
www.SandpiperBeacon.com

Great Sponsors & Entertainment

Starr, Red Bull, ECCO, Alloy Marketing & Promotions, Paramount Motion Station, B&B, MURRAY, WICKS, DE SABBATO, WOR, MEDIA, CONTACT US