

Master plan sessions attract few on campus

BY KATHY CHO
STAFF WRITER

Students were conspicuous in their absence at the University's public forums to discuss possible updates to the Master Plan.

Two meetings were held Thursday afternoon and evening on campus. While about 25 people attended the first event, the undergraduate turnout appeared to consist of one, said Jason Baker, a candidate for Chapel Hill Town Council.

Baker said the low student turnout was not a surprise but still a disappointment. "Students have as much a vested interest in the long-term development of the University as anyone else," he said.

The organizers might not have advertised enough to students and student government could have done more to encourage involvement, Baker said.

One proposed change to the Master Plan that could impact students is the cancellation of a new residence hall in the northeast part of campus in favor of open space.

Baker said he wanted to be assured of the University's commitment to its "a new bed for every head" slogan.

Students were a larger presence in the evening. "I would commend the University from the viewpoint (of sustainability)," said Nathan Poslusny, a senior environmental science and biology major and member of the renewable energy special project committee, which was represented by about 6 students.

He said more bike paths, walking paths and open space left a positive impression on him.

Poslusny also said he had expected to see more students than just his organization.

"That's a part we could do better," said Linda Convisor, the University's director of local relations.

University officials sent out e-mail notices to student government and groups such as the Residence Hall Association, she said, and one professor will bring an entire class of students at noon Friday to the meeting in Union 2518 as a class activity.

"It's exciting to have students here," she said. "We had a really good student group working with us (for the Master Plan of 2001)."

Nonstudent participants focused on parking issues and the proposed widening of Mason Farm Road.

At the first meeting many audience members had comments on parking.

"There are already not enough spaces in the park-and-ride lots," said Dave Laudicina, who lives north of Chapel Hill. "If you can't get a spot between 8 (a.m.) and 8:30 (a.m.), how are you going to get to work?"

Many of the roughly 25 people at the later forum were residents. Mason Farm residents asked about the proposed road expansion, UNC's plans for buying property in the area and such a move's effect on the character of the neighborhood.

Anna Wu, director of facilities planning, said the road alterations aren't certain. "Planning a road is a long process. It may take 10 years or more. So that's where we are, year zero of 10 or more."

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PUBLIC SERVICE

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could not fulfill," he said. "It's a tricky balance."

The ability to connect

At present, the center is trying to augment what Blanchard views as "not an exhaustive list."

"Everybody is really stretched with time and resources," said Elaine Tola, program officer for the center. "Getting the projects into the database has been one of our greatest challenges."

A work in progress, the center's online database documenting service projects across the state draws information from department press releases and newsletters, Tola said.

Seen in the eyes of the state government as a "connecting" organization, the center is performing effectively to funnel and track the efforts of groups under its umbrella.

"Enabler organizations on college campuses are terrific," said Will Lindsay, executive director of the N.C. Commission on Volunteerism and Public Service. "They help other organizations do their jobs better."

The center does not create service projects under its own name; its primary responsibility is to give

voice to projects that would otherwise go unnoticed.

"That's a pretty large task," Lindsay said. "It's so much more efficient to call one central location on campus."

But Blanchard said she is cautious to detract from the autonomy of the many service dabbings on campus that sustain their own presence.

"We are certainly not trying to crowd everything under one label or roof," she said.

"I think at Carolina there's a tradition of, 'If something happens, let's act,'" she added, noting the outpouring of Hurricane Katrina relief.

"Students are action-oriented."

The state and beyond

As the University continues to build new roofs, such as that which soon will cover the Global Education Center, a world view is in check.

"You can't care deeply about the people of North Carolina without being involved globally," Brooks said.

"I don't believe for one second that a global outlook is taking anything away from the University's 200-plus-year commitment to state service."

"Engaged support" lies at the heart of the center's efforts to garner

help push the effort to link up parts of town to the Internet.

"I look forward to the day not too far from now when the residents, including students, of Chapel Hill appreciate the value of wireless Internet access."

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WALKER

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an of the town planning board, echoed that sentiment.

Citing Rutherford's plan to join the technology committee, Sinreich, who also runs local political blog OrangePolitics.org, said advisory boards were better ways for some people to be involved.

"I wish more people would recognize which way is appropriate for them," she said.

Rutherford said he still hopes to

help push the effort to link up parts of town to the Internet.

"I look forward to the day not too far from now when the residents, including students, of Chapel Hill appreciate the value of wireless Internet access."

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DRUGS

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the North Carolina campus.

"We didn't have any issues with it, so there was no need to mess around with it," said Marissa May, an outfielder on the softball team. "It was going to be clear-cut."

Procedures related to the use of other banned substances — such as marijuana and amphetamines — also are changed in the new policy.

Previously, the first positive test resulted in the notification of the parents of the offender, counseling, rehabilitation and follow-up testing. A second positive resulted in the automatic cancellation of the student-athlete's eligibility.

The new policy places an increased emphasis on education, counseling and rehabilitation.

An offending student-athlete will sign a "performance contract" detailing the consequences of the positive test. The contract not only will forbid the use of the banned substance, it will address the underlying causes of the drug use.

"Someone who's tested positive is not just dealing with that issue," Baddour said. "There may be other complications involved."

A contract would be developed for each individual case.

If the drug use could be traced to depression, for example, a physician would prescribe a treatment in which the student-athlete would be required to participate.

"Stress, anxiety, depression — all these things can lead to substance abuse," Baddour said.

The timing of the announcement — it comes nearly a year to the day after three football players were arrested for marijuana possession — might lead one to believe that the new policy is nothing more than a reaction to that episode.

"This has never been about that incident," Baddour said firmly.

And the harshest penalties remain reserved for the users of performance-enhancing anabolic steroids.

"That isn't going to happen accidentally," said Jack Evans, the faculty athletics representative.

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local, national and global networks of communication, Blanchard said.

Citing what she believes is the center's best example, Blanchard spoke of the UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention and its work in Eastern North Carolina for more than 10 years.

"They have a kind of relationship in which that kind of participation can take place," she said.

Economic development, education and health care are the top three issues on the minds of North Carolinians, Blanchard said, noting the similar global attention to such areas of service-based focus.

Hoping to contribute to an engaged study of these issues are more than 60 state counties and 40 majors represented by the cen-

ter's fall semester troupe of Public Service Scholars, Blanchard said. Collectively, the participants complete tens of thousands of service hours every year.

Unlike other universities that generate projects rather than communicate what's already in existence, UNC is unique in that the Triangle has been steeped in proactive measures ever since the University was founded, Brooks said.

For Blanchard, the feeling is mutual. "Some people say that public service is in your blood," she said. "I think service is in the water of the Old Well."

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MCCANTS

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ward Kevin Garnett, who was playing on the opposing team.

"Rookie wanna play a lot." Playing a lot has been a given for McCants since he first picked up a basketball. At Erwin High School, at New Hampton Prep, even at UNC, he was the center of attention.

In his first game as a Tar Heel he scored 28 points. How's that for an entrance.

But you won't see McCants scoring 28 points for the Timberwolves. That's Garnett's job. McCants is not expected, or needed, to be a significant contributor this year for a franchise that has been a perennial playoff contender.

Contrast that with his fellow Tar Heel National Champions: Raymond Felton and Sean May are the centerpiece of the Bobcats' media blitz, and Marvin Williams is seen as the future of the Hawks.

That leaves McCants, the 14th pick and last of the four taken in the NBA Draft, in unfamiliar territory.

And he doesn't seem to mind. "It's not really about battling for minutes, it's about being part of another team," McCants said. "I'm a rookie, so I'm going to have to earn my time."

Hold on, isn't this the kid who's been labeled as a me-first egomaniac?

The knock on McCants during his sometimes tumultuous UNC career was a poor attitude, but Kevin McHale doesn't buy it.

Minnesota's vice president of basketball operations doesn't believe that just because McCants has acted a little sullen and a little selfish means he will cause chemistry problems.

It's the reason McHale was so excited on draft night when McCants slipped all the way to No. 14.

"All the stuff that guys call people malcontents now, I would have been a hell of a malcontent," said McHale, a Hall of Fame forward and three-time NBA Champion with the Boston Celtics.

"I like to win, so I'd say, 'Give me the ball, get the hell out of my way and I'll get two (points).' But I guess that's politically incorrect now."

The former North Carolina swingman hasn't shaken his unsavory image just yet, however — thanks in part to his willingness to challenge the press.

Case in point: Monday's media day. McCants was asked if he would have to adjust his play, considering that new coach Dwane Casey has a defense-first philosophy.

"We did play defense at North Carolina," McCants sarcastically replied, staring down his inquisitor. "So it's not like we didn't."

But occasional displays of petulance are child's play in a league that's home to Allen "Practice?" Iverson and Ron Brawl-test.

McCants' comments that compared playing at North Carolina to prison might have caused a stir last fall, but Garnett did him one better during the first round of the 2004 playoffs. Before Game Seven against the Denver Nuggets, Garnett told reporters that he was

planning on bringing his M-16s and grenade launchers to the game.

Of course, you can get away with that when your career average is 20 points and 11 rebounds a game.

Garnett has served as mentor to McCants so far, and the rookie said the opportunity to play with the eight-time All-Star and 2004 MVP is a major advantage to playing for the Timberwolves.

"I felt like this was the best situation for me, as far as coming into a team that had been to the playoffs," McCants said. "And playing with a veteran like Kevin Garnett, who's the best player in the league, that can definitely show me a lot."

The mentor-student relationship was clear Tuesday, as Garnett pulled McCants aside to demonstrate moves that could create space for his jumper.

McCants said the two have bonded off the court as well.

"We've had a lot of heart-to-heart discussions," McCants said. "He's been great about letting me know the little things I'm doing wrong."

One big thing McCants needs to work on — even if he did do it at Carolina — is defense. Casey raved about McCants' offensive prowess, but the coach's main priority is transforming the Wolves into a defensive squad. And with veterans Wally Szczerbiak and Trenton Hassell ahead of him at shooting guard, McCants faces an uphill battle for minutes.

"McCants is going to be a great player in this league but he has a lot to learn," Casey said. "Especially on the defensive end of the floor."

Plus, McCants missed the Timberwolves' summer league season — a key proving ground for young players — with myriad injuries, including a strained hamstring, a turned ankle and an ailing groin.

"Rashad's been a little banged up, so we haven't gotten a chance to see a lot of what he's capable of doing," Szczerbiak said. "But obviously he's a real talent, a good skills player, and I think he's going to help us a lot."

McCants, who said he's now 95-percent healthy, is ready for the challenge. Though he's looking to defer to the team's veterans, he still intends to average 10 points and six boards a game. No NBA player shorter than 6-foot-7 averaged that many rebounds last season.

McCants is listed at 6-foot-4.

In addition to those goals, McCants established himself Tuesday as the most vocal player on the team — besides Garnett, of course. During the scrimmage he was constantly picking up his teammates and trash-talking — even occasionally at Garnett's expense.

But all that cockiness and swagger plays a lot better in the NBA than it did in college.

"I think Rashad can be a little moody and selfish — and that's OK," McHale said. "Some of the great thoroughbreds will bite your hand if you come in the stall."

And you can bet McCants will be chomping on the bit all year.

After all, this rookie wanna play a lot.

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LIST

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University of Pittsburgh had the highest tuition rate, at \$10,736 for in-state undergraduates during the 2005-06 school year.

The lowest tuition rate for a 12-credit hour schedule is at the University of Florida, which totals \$2,474.88 per year.

UNC-CH's tuition rate for 2005-06 stands at \$3,205.00, the second lowest of the group.

Shelton said that some of the changes were beneficial but that many others deserve further discussion. "I think the original list is a good list, so we don't need a wholesale change."

Officials at other system schools said their updated catalogs of peers

also merited further debate.

"Most of them are peers that have been on our peer list for a long time," said Karen Helm, director of university planning and analysis at N.C. State University.

"There are a few that we are interested in discussing further with the Office of the President."

System officials said the final list probably will not be approved by the BOG until early 2006.

But BOG member Hannah Gage said this is hindering the work of the system's tuition policy task force, of which she is co-chairwoman.

"It's been somewhat of a frustration for us ... because we're trying to determine if a campus's public peers creates a good framework for tuition," she said. "We can't make that decision until we see the final

group of peers."

Joan Lorden, provost for UNC-Charlotte, said peer lists should consider a university's goals.

"You've got to have the right institutions on there that represent not just where you are, but where you ought to be in the future."

Shelton, in a letter discussing the ongoing debate about appropriate peers, suggested including the category of "aspirational peers."

Princeton, Yale and Stanford were three that he suggested.

"Clearly you would hope that the campuses and the Office of the President would reach a point where they all feel good," Gage said. "I hope that's the conclusion here."

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

THE Daily Crossword

By Dick Rogiv

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ACROSS

- 1 Purim month
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- 10 Old World duck
- 14 Connecting point
- 15 Anew
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- 34 Gambler's marker
- 35 Long time
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- 3 Take up
- 4 Says by heart
- 5 Toady
- 6 Shivering fits
- 7 Exalted national poet
- 8 Fleur-de-__
- 9 Way in
- 10 Dish stewed in wine

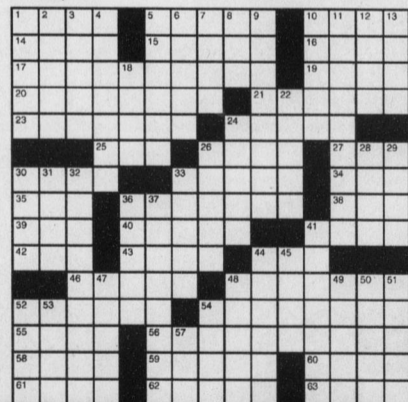
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- 51 Cobbler's tools
- 52 Day-to-day worker
- 53 Hydrox rival
- 54 Repair
- 57 "The Matrix" role



This Weekend in Carolina Athletics

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>Volleyball vs. Florida State TONIGHT @ 7:00 pm Carmichael Auditorium</p>	<p>Volleyball vs. Miami @ 3:00 pm Carmichael Auditorium</p> <p>Men's Soccer vs. Virginia Tech @ 7:00 pm Fetzer Field</p>	<p>Women's Soccer vs. Duke @ 2:00 pm Fetzer Field</p>
<p>Women's Golf Lady Tar Heel Invitational All Weekend Finley Golf Course</p>	<p>Field Hockey vs. Boston College @ 1:00 pm Henry Stadium</p> <p>Women's Rowing vs. Duke & West Virginia Lake Michie, Bahama, NC All Day</p>	

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