

**BOT ROUNDUP**

FROM PAGE 1

The committee was called to approve several design and designer proposals for future campus construction projects.

Among other initiatives, a design proposal for a new music department building — the first phase of the Arts Common concept — was on the agenda.

After looking at building designs and models, the committee unanimously approved a master plan for the Arts Common. Final funding and designs for phase one have been completed while funding questions for phase two remain.

Other motions on the agenda included a site approval for the demolition and construction of new dental sciences buildings.

Designers also were approved for addition and renovation work on Carmichael Auditorium, along with designers for a roof renovation project involving the Davis Library reading room.

The committee closed by reviewing the status of current construction on campus. Bruce Runberg, associate vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction, said \$91 million

worth of construction has been completed at UNC in the last six months.

According to the committee's semiannual report, 39 projects are under way and 50 more are in design stages.

COMPILED BY KATE SULLIVAN

**AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The audit and finance committee met Wednesday to discuss last year's financial reports.

Debt Manager Brian Smith said UNC is a little less than \$896 million in debt.

"This is a significant amount of debt," he said, "... but a lot of other institutions are doing what we're doing."

Ernie Patterson, who was just recently named as Employee Forum chairman, also discussed issues regarding increased wages, retirement, affordable health care and affordable housing.

Paul Fulton, a member of the UNC Board of Trustees, gave an update on the \$2 billion Carolina First campaign, saying he is confident the fundraising goals can be met.

COMPILED BY WHITNEY KISLING

**BOE**

FROM PAGE 1

Board members are the ones who must verify each scrawled name on a candidate's petition for office and who must check that candidates' expenditures are within legal limits.

But scrutiny often arises from the fact that much of the board's responsibilities involve interpreting the Student Code, a body of rules frequently characterized as convoluted and archaic.

These decisions become especially contentious, because they affect not only who can run in student races but also who wins them.

Last semester the board was taken to the Student Supreme Court by The Daily Tar Heel, the Black Student Movement and two candidates on grievances involving a special election to fill open seats in Student Congress.

The group was exonerated on all but one charge — that the group had improperly withheld election results.

"We make decisions that people don't like and don't agree with," Rutherford said. "You hope they say that the board did everything they could and did it in the right way, even if they don't agree with the decision itself."

Board Chairman Nick Mosley said members focus on being as equitable as possible.

"If there are two sides in an issue, one won't go away happy, sometimes neither do," Mosley said. "But we wouldn't have made a decision if we didn't think it was right."

Despite frequent controversy, board members seem more con-

cerned with doing the job correctly than with being noticed for it.

"We aren't out for publicity, positive or negative," Brewer said. "We are just out to do the job."

The board currently is working to make this year's elections run smoothly by regulating candidates' campaigns and advertising the importance of voting.

The board tries to maintain a light-hearted, positive attitude through it all.

A picture of Rutherford hangs in the board's Student Union office with the label "The Godfather," a nickname resulting from his extensive work with the board.

Members are working to have T-shirts made featuring the group's motto: "We do it behind closed doors" and "We are bored of elections."

Jokes aside, the often chaotic schedule with which members deal displays their level of dedication.

Mary Boyd Harris, co-vice chairwoman of the board, found herself at a meeting in costume last semester because it was scheduled at 7 p.m. on Halloween.

"My friends were going to a party and I was like, 'Well, I'm going to BOE,'" said Harris. "It was during homecoming; there was a possible violation; and we had to make a decision."

Freshman Sarah Rutledge said she relishes the job because it allows for more involvement on campus.

"It was a new experience," she said, "... a chance to meet older people and see how involved they are, how much time they spend and how knowledgeable they are."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

**Tax, grant situations unclear for now**

**NOT LIKE LAST YEAR**

After Wednesday's community budget forum, Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy told reporters that an increase in property taxes — the town's chief source of revenue — is a possibility.

"Last year it was clear that we were going to raise taxes," he said.

"This year it's a lot murkier at this point," he added. "It's not like it was last year."

**REQUESTS UP, FUNDS DOWN**

Social programs cost money. And with Chapel Hill facing a 10 percent cut in federal community development funds, Town Council members will be forced to make tough decisions in the coming budget cycle, Foy said.

"We don't have the money," he said. "People need to understand that."

At the meeting, Town Manager Cal Horton informed Foy that, as a result of changes in federal policies, Chapel Hill likely will receive \$68,000 less than it did for the current fiscal year in community block development grants, and various community organizations spoke to the council members about their needs in the coming year.

There was no shortage of groups asking for some of the town's funds during the forum. The requests ranged from \$500 to more than \$100,000.

"Living with the disconnect between 'compassionate conservative' rhetoric and the realities

of running the town is not pretty," said council member Bill Strom after the meeting.

Foy said that the council's decisions as to which programs would be based on how successful each program is, but he noted that programs cannot be measured against one another.

He said the decision likely will incorporate factors such as how long a program has been active in the community, how many people it serves and exactly what types of people it serves.

But regardless of the cuts the council might have to make, council member Bill Thorpe said he was glad to get started with the budgetary process.

"This is the most important thing that we will do, and this is the first step," he said.

**COMMUNITY NEEDS**

Speakers asked for funds for a variety of causes, including the friends of the library, firefighters, the N.C. High School Athletic Association, financial literacy, local affordable housing, a community multicultural banquet and the local YMCA.

Delores Bailey of Empowerment Inc. asked for funds to hire a rental property manager who would deal with properties belonging to four prominent affordable-housing groups, to include the Orange Community Housing and Land Trust.

COMPILED BY TED STRONG

**MODERN times**

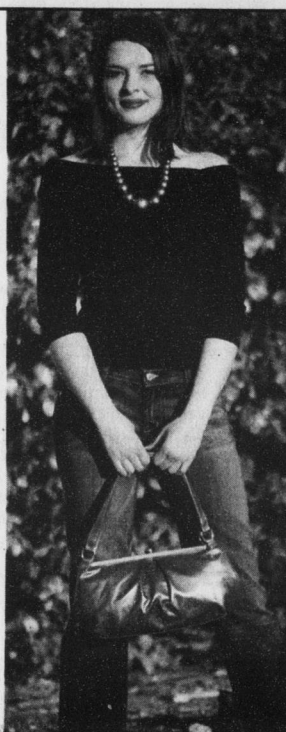
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