

# The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 114, ISSUE 83

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2006

www.dailytarheel.com

## Tuition policy could cement trend in hikes

BY ERIC JOHNSON  
SENIOR WRITER

Seven years ago, when the UNC system first allowed campuses to propose their own tuition increases, the measure was billed as a last resort, to be used only under extraordinary circumstances.

**INSIDE** Tuition task force to meet for the first time since proposal  
**PAGE 3** Board of Governors will vote on an updated policy that would virtually guarantee annual rate increases of hundreds of dollars for the next four years.

"What has happened in the last 10 years has been a 180-degree change in policy," said John Sanders, a former BOG member and longtime observer of university politics.

"And it's been step-by-step." A combination of rising expenses, uncertain state appropriations and inevitable turf battles shifted the policy's focus from low tuition to predictable tuition, which has become a new mantra among university officials.

"Previously, university presidents relied on the General Assembly to make the final decision, with the hope that tuition increases would be lower, and that state appropriations would provide for university needs," said Jeff Davies, chief of staff to system President Erskine Bowles.

"The goal now is to have regular, predictable increases rather than no increases."

From its inception, campus-based tuition has been an issue of who would control tuition rates and the revenue they generate.

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### Tuition increases for the past 35 years:

Year	Resident undergrad tuition	Percent increase
1974	316	N/A
1977	330	4.4
1980	364	10.3
1983	436	19.8
1986	480	10.1
1989	504	5.0
1992	774	53.6
1995	874	12.9
1998	1,428	63.4
2001	1,860	30.3
2004	2,955	58.9
2007	3,455	16.9
2011	4,444*	28.6

\*Maximum possible under new proposal. SOURCE: UNC-system Board of Governors

Prior to the creation of a campus-based process in 1998, increases in tuition were imposed almost exclusively by the state legislature, and lawmakers had full control over the revenue.

"That's what the campus-based policy tried to avoid," Davies said.

It also attempted to balance the desire of campus administrators to have a flexible revenue stream with the desire of system officials to maintain some control.

Serving as dean of UNC-Chapel Hill's Kenan-Flagler Business

## Rams Head bests blaze



Chapel Hill firefighters consult with each other after extinguishing a grease fire that broke out at Rams Head Dining Hall on Tuesday. Firefighters put out the blaze in about 15 or 20 minutes and then broke a window to help ventilate the area. The hall will reopen today.

BY KAYLA CARRICK  
AND RACHEL ULLRICH  
ASSISTANT CITY EDITORS

A fire broke out at Rams Head Dining Hall at about 5:54 p.m. Tuesday, causing the entire building to be evacuated.

The blaze started as a grease fire at The Chop House, said Mike Freeman, director of auxiliary services for the University.

"The staff attempted to put out the flames using extinguishers," he said. "The smoke set off the fire alarms."

The flame was three to four feet tall and about two feet wide, Freeman said.

Campus police shut down the entire plaza when the fourth floor of the Rams Head complex filled with smoke.

The fire department arrived and put out the fire in 15 or 20 minutes, Chapel Hill fire Chief Dan Jones said.

He said there were seven units present — about 22 firefighters — and two Emergency Medical Services units.

"We were able to control it with the kitchen hood and hand extinguishers," Jones said.

One window on the front side of the main floor was broken to help ventilate the floor. Other than the window, there was no structural or equipment damage, Freeman said. The fire was contained in the Chop House area.

He said Rams Head Dining Hall

should be open by lunch today.

"We will not be open for breakfast, but we should be by 11 or maybe 10:30 (a.m.)."

Chris Smith, a Rams Head Dining Hall employee, said he was eating dinner near the grill when the fire started.

"I got up and forgot about the food," he said. "I ran over to see what I could do. ... I was trying to help, but they wanted me to leave too."

Smith said nobody was hurt in the incident. He said that a dining hall employee was manning the grill at the time but that he jumped away from the flame before he could be burned.

Freshman Daniel Outen said he saw the flame just as it caught and took pictures on his cell phone.

"I was in there, where they cook the mac and cheese in the grill area, when my friend was like 'Oh my God,'" he said. "I turned and it was like, a six-foot flame behind me. ... When we left, there was black smoke covering the ceiling."

Smith said that in addition to the smoke, the flame burned the counter near the grill before it was extinguished.

"It was out of control," he said. "I have a headache from it."

Outen said that after some initial confusion, Rams Head managers handled the situation efficiently.



A grease fire breaks out at Rams Head Dining Hall on Tuesday. The fire started at the Chop House, causing firefighters and police to shut down the facility.

"They didn't look like they knew what to do at first," he said. "Someone grabbed a fire extinguisher and asked us to leave because there might be a gas leak. ... I guess they did what they were supposed to do because everyone was out in about a minute."

Jones said that there was no gas leak but that the gas was shut off as a precaution.

Outen and other students who already had paid for their meals were told by a Rams Head manager they

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Professor James Thompson speaks at the dedication of the Thomas Wolfe memorial and garden between Murphey and Greenlaw halls on Tuesday.

## Wolfe brought home again

BY LUIS TORRES  
STAFF WRITER

Although Thomas Wolfe graduated from UNC nearly 90 years ago, his presence still is felt on campus.

A memorial for Wolfe — who graduated from the University with a bachelor of arts degree in 1920 — was held Wednesday afternoon at the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Garden in honor of what would have been his 106th birthday.

The garden features an 850-pound bronze angel sculpture.

The sculpture — which was given to the University by the class of 1966 — represents one of Wolfe's most famous literary works, "Look Homeward, Angel."

About 75 people attended the ceremony, including the angel's sculptor, Richard Kinnaird.

James Thompson, chairman

of the Department of English and Comparative Literature, said the location is well-suited to make the campus aware of Wolfe's legacy.

"Every day I walk by here, and I see students reading and talking."

In the spring, the angel statue was moved to the more prominent spot between Greenlaw and Murphey halls after spending decades in a rarely viewed alcove near New East Residence Hall.

"I couldn't be more pleased with this site and this memorial," Chancellor James Moeser said.

"I think we've created a beautiful space on this campus that says something about the heart and soul of this University."

Joe Flora, English professor and a past president of the Thomas Wolfe

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## County meets its manager finalists

BY DANIEL PRICE  
STAFF WRITER

Orange County is one step closer to naming a new county manager.

The two finalists for the position were introduced to the public Tuesday at a reception in the new courthouse in Hillsborough.

Both Tom Robinson and Laura Blackmon came to Orange County with many years of experience in city and county government in hopes of replacing John Link, who retired Sept. 1 after 18 years at the post.

"I'm not John Link," Robinson said. "I don't want to be John Link, but I do want to learn from him."

Blackmon also has big goals in mind. "I have dedicated my life to being a public ser-

vant," she said. "I am here to serve the public."

The Orange County Board of Commissioners has specific qualities in mind when it comes to hiring a new manager.

"We're looking for vision, skill and passion," commissioner Moses Carey said.

"And we've got two candidates, both of whom bring all that and more."

Robinson has been manager of multiple counties across North Carolina. He currently acts as manager of Rockingham County.

"Periodically in your career, you evaluate where you are," Robinson said Monday. "It's an opportunity to be there in Orange County, a greater metropolitan area ... next to the Research Triangle and close to the University."

At the reception, the public got an opportu-

nity to meet the candidates and ask them questions about their plans for Orange County.

The candidates, county commissioners and interested citizens and officials gathered in the jury room for an hour before shifting the proceedings to the courtroom for formal presentations.

When asked what she intends to implement in Orange County if selected, Blackmon said "good government."

Blackmon stressed her professional development from a substitute teacher in Florida to manager-hopeful in North Carolina during her 15-minute presentation in the courtroom.

"One of the most rewarding things I ever did ... was helping with student government," she

SEE MANAGER, PAGE 7

## UNC to contact students with recalled batteries

BY NITISHA DESAI  
STAFF WRITER

UNC Information Technology Services received new information Tuesday on the specific laptops affected by the battery recall which Lenovo technology company initiated last week.

The recall followed an incident at a Los Angeles airport last month when a computer battery overheated and began smoking.

Priscilla Alden, assistant vice chancellor for user support and engagement, said ITS now knows the specific serial numbers of computers with defective batteries.

"There are 857 computers campuswide that are affected. Of those, 549 are students' The

remaining are faculty or staff machines."

The only University-issued models that are affected are the ThinkPad T43 and the ThinkPad R52, Alden said.

The serial numbers are posted on the ITS Web site — its.unc.edu.

The Web site also includes a program students can download to determine whether their computer is affected.

An e-mail will be sent to all students whose computers might contain defective batteries.

"If you don't get an e-mail, you are probably not affected," Alden said. "That e-mail should be going out no later than Thursday morning."

"The e-mail is basically going to say that your

battery is being recalled," she said, adding that it also will instruct students to remove their battery, use the AC adapter and not discard the battery so that they can exchange it for a replacement.

"As soon as we receive a replacement battery, we will notify those people and say, 'Come get your new battery,'" Alden said.

She said the University doesn't know when the replacement batteries will be delivered.

Lenovo spokesman Ray Gorman said, "I don't want to put a specific day on it."

Most students don't see the battery recall as a pressing issue.

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**MIND OVER MATTER** New center will target women's mental health

**RAKING IN JOBS** An N.C. fund brings companies to the state

**RACY SUBJECT** Students view a presentation on race and sexuality

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**WALKING ON WATER** The UNC water ski club team will compete in a national competition after a strong showing at regionals, where they finished fourth.



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**NO HANGING CHAD** Student Congress and the campus Board of Elections butt heads over the Student Code heading into special elections Oct. 17.

this day in history

OCT. 4, 1982 ...

UNC faculty members rank first in reputation among Southeastern universities in biostatistics, chemistry and statistics, according to the National Academy of Science.

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