

# Guaranteed textbook buyback expands

BY KESHA HUDSON  
STAFF WRITER

In hopes of luring more buyers, UNC Student Stores is expanding its guaranteed textbook buyback program to include 26 titles.

Under the policy, Student Stores will refund half of the original shelf price, even if the student purchased the book used.

Most of the 3,761 required and optional texts sold in Student Stores are excluded from the buyback guarantee. The program targets large introductory courses with enrollments of 250 or more.

The Student Stores initiative joins rental and buyback programs at Franklin Street textbook stores.

At Student Stores, faculty members drive the program. Each department must decide how long it is willing to commit to a textbook and individually report to Student Stores.

If the books aren't going to be used again, Student Stores decides refund amounts based on offers from other vendors — and students usually don't get as much back.

The program was an initiative by the President's Advisory Committee on Efficiency and Effectiveness, a committee created by UNC-system President Erskine Bowles in 2005 to try to cut rapidly increasing textbook prices for all students attending state universities.

Sophomore Elizabeth Mauldin said she spent about \$500 per semester on textbooks last year.

"I returned seven books and only received \$85 back, so the guaranteed buyback will definitely give me more money," Mauldin said.

Although the program went into effect last spring, textbook department manager Kelly Hanner said the response this semester has been more positive.

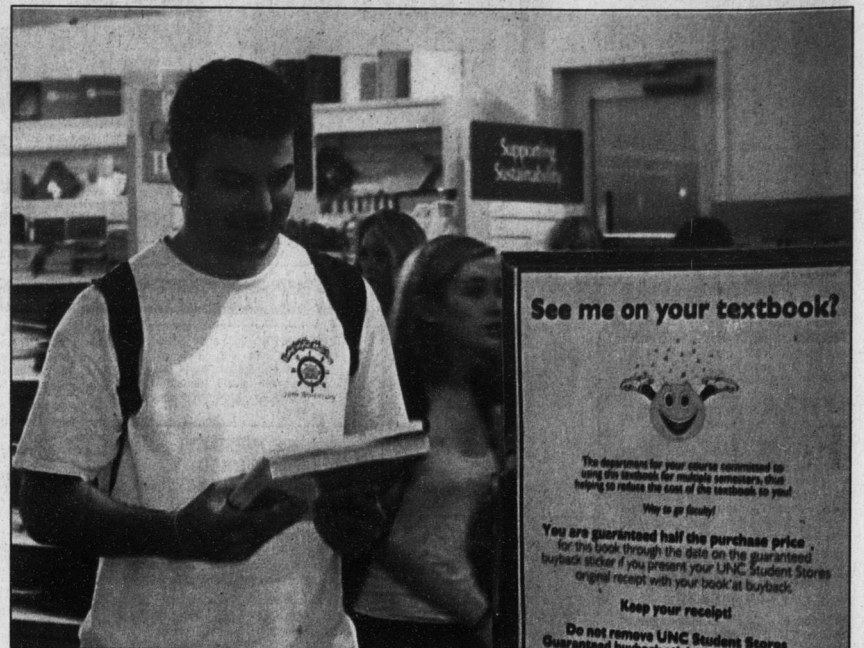
"It was bad timing for faculty because it's hard to review and make a commitment to a textbook in the middle of year," Hanner said. "This coming fall has been a more appropriate and comfortable time."

Ram Book & Supply on Franklin Street guarantees to buy back any book used within the last year, excluding workbooks, coursepacks and lab manuals. The amount they pay is based on if the book is being used at UNC the next semester and the nationwide demand.

"Any book that we sell, we'll buy back," said Jeremy Brown, Ram Book & Supply manager. "There is a nationwide market for books, so even if it's not going to be used on this campus ... the book can be used somewhere else."

Ram Book & Supply also has a limited textbook rental program. Options are similar at Tarheel Book Store.

"Buyback is an essential part of our business," said Christian Campbell, Tarheel Book Store manager. "We base our buybacks on market forces, and that comes down to supply and demand forces."



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

Anthony Palermo, a senior, considers buying a textbook Wednesday afternoon at UNC Student Stores. Textbooks with the buyback symbol guarantee a minimum return of half the original price with receipt.

## Wilson Library shifts aim for accessibility

BY ASHLEY BENNETT  
STAFF WRITER

In the age of Internet search engines and online library catalogs, many students never consider searching stacks of manuscripts as part of academic research.

But through the creation and hiring for several new positions, the Louis Round Wilson Library hopes to make its collections more accessible to the public.

"The objective is to give us more capability to bring materials in, to catalog them and describe them so people can find them and make use of them," said Rich Szary, associate University librarian.

Director of Library Communications Judy Panitch said there have been 10 new hires since August 2007 for the public and special collections in Wilson Library.

Szary said the new positions include technical services catalogers, a collection archivist and a head of research and instructional services.

The library also has created a legacy finding aids archivist position within the Southern Historical Collection. It will be filled this fall.

The archivist will be responsible for putting the descriptions of manuscript collections online, said Jackie Dean, manuscripts processing librarian.

The collection's goal is to have all of its materials online within three years.

"This is important because we don't just let people come back in the stacks," she said. "They have

to look at the description and say, 'Okay, I want this box.' So having the description online helps them maximize their research time."

Dean also said the descriptions will be rewritten to be made more intuitive than they are now.

"The styles of descriptions change through the years," she said. "So what we're doing is making what we've got more modern."

Another Southern Historical Collection position is also working to make manuscripts more accessible.

Holly Smith, Overholser archival fellow for African American studies in the Southern Historical Collection, began highlighting materials written about or produced by blacks in the South in July.

She said she will make the materials available to researchers and people interested in black culture.

The position also entails that Smith coordinate and collaborate on programs and exhibits with other organizations and historically black colleges and universities.

Both Smith and Dean said each of the new positions in Wilson Library will help facilitate more public accessibility and use of the manuscript collections.

"The archives are now focused more on community outreach," Smith said. "Following the idea to share that story more than in the past and help the public to share their story."

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## CENTER

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did not open until August 2004.

Bilbao and others said they hope the Latina/o center won't take as long.

"I pledged to my peers freshman year that my goal was to work at the center my senior year," said Bilbao, a junior.

UNC's degree-seeking undergraduate Latino population has grown

327 percent in the last eight years.

When it comes to a Latina/o center, some say the sooner, the better.

"There's been kind of a lag in awareness of Latina/o populations in the United States," DeGuzmán said. "There are some real historical blinders. The faster we become aware and try to integrate, the better off we will be."

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## GANG TALK

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Parker said it has become common for prospective gang members to join on social networking sites such as MySpace and because programs haven't caught up to the trend, they are misdirecting their prevention efforts.

Dave Baricz, coordinator for the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative for Wake County, said focusing only on prevention and intervention won't solve the problem.

"That's not comprehensive

enough — we need to talk about re-entry," he said.

A chief obstacle to successful rehabilitation is finding employment because often the only jobs the gang members have held were in prison, said Gudrun Parmer, director of the Durham Criminal Justice Resource Center.

"Employment is absolutely key for people to become productive citizens, to show them a different world," she said.

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

## BLOCK PARTY

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"It's like you come out to meet your friends and the music just happens to be there," said first-year Daniel Sircar, who added that it was also hard to pass up free food.

Others chose to attend because of their familiarity with the featured bands. First-year Caroline La Roche said that her hometown of Farmville, Va., is close to Richmond, where both bands formed.

First-year Abbey Herrmann said she attended simply because there

was nothing else to do that night.

The concert is one of several events the IFC has held for promotion and to give back to the community. Past events have included a blood drive competition against Duke University and a pig pickin' cook-off with entry fees donated to the Chapel Hill Fire Department.

In September the IFC will travel to Washington, D.C., to lobby for funding for fire prevention and education in colleges.

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## GUNS

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"I've had another parent say, 'We're not letting our kids come over here,'" Vosburg said. "Would you let your kids back here to play?"

Attempts to contact Vosburg's neighbors were unsuccessful.

Vosburg said his family realized the problem had reached a new level when he returned home to find his dog panicked by the nearby gun shots. The dalmatian had

ripped down screens on four back windows and clawed and chewed gashes into a fence, leaving the dog's mouth full of blood.

The claw marks in the fence are still there today. And so are the frequent gun shots ringing out next door.

"It's unnerving to know that someone could come out here and start shooting," Vosburg said.

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