Faculty Council tables grade change proposal

by Art Eisenstadt Staff Writer

A proposal to change the definitions of letter grades was tabled Friday by the UNC Faculty Council. The proposal will be brought up again at the council's next meeting Oct. 17.

The council also postponed action on an alternative grading proposal which would add pluses and minuses to final grades.

Time limitations led to postponement of the grading debate, which was listed as the next-to-last item of debate on the agenda. Although the council has a mandatory adjournment time an hour and 45 minutes after the meeting is called to order, Friday's session was extended an extra half-hour at the urging of Chancellor N. Ferebee Taylor.

Provost J. Charles Morrow presented the recommendations of the Committee on Instructional Personnel, a standing faculty committee. Morrow is chairperson of the

The Morrow Committee proposal was to revise the grading scale by redefining each letter grade. Under the plan, the "A" would be redefined as indicating "outstanding" work instead of "excellent."

Subsequent grades would also be upvalued, with "B" changed from "good" to "superior," "C" from "fair" to "good," and "D" from "passed" to "fair."

According to the committee's report, the scheme would help combat grade inflation - a trend in which the percentage of high grades issued has increased over recent

History Professor James R. Leutze introduced a counter proposal, which would have allowed plus and minus grades to be given on final grade transcripts.

The Leutze plan was originally proposed to the Morrow committee as a possible solution to grade inflation. But Morrow sought to discuss the idea separate from the grade inflation debate.

"The committee did not meet to discuss the recommendation of changing the grading scale by adding plus and minus grades, and the committee recommended against that," Morrow said.

He said the committee believed the plus and minus grades would aggravate grade inflation by tempting professors to give a minus when they previously would have

Faculty Chairperson George V. Taylor endorsed the Leutze proposal, but also urged postponement of the discussion so that "everybody can put their heads together and

Both Bates and Lisa Bradley, chairperson allow plus grades, but not minus grades.

In other action, the council approved a set of recommendations from an ad hoc committee establishing a women's studies

"Something should be done to encourage further development of women's studies, and something shall be done soon," said Richard L. Simpson, chairperson of the sociology

The committee did not propose any specific curriculum, but limited its recommendation to general guidelines. Simpson said details of the program could best be worked out after the Chancellor

Simpson also urged the program be reviewed after five years to determine whether women's studies have developed into a legitimate discipline or a passing fad.





Staff photo by Charles Hardy

President demands O'Neal's resignation; treasurer may refuse

by Art Eisenstadt

Despite Student Body President Bill Bates's demand that student treasurer Mike O'Neal resign, O'Neal has decided against resignation, a source close to Student Government said Sunday.

Bates said Sunday he may fire O'Neal if

the treasurer refuses to leave office. Bates formally demanded O'Neal's resignation Friday but gave O'Neal until today to respond. Bates apparently made his decision to remove O'Neal at approximately 3:30 a.m. Friday following a two-hour

meeting with his top advisers. The source, who requested that his name not be revealed, said he had talked with O'Neal over the weekend, and "he said at that time he had no interest in resigning, and that as far as he was concerned, he could not be fired."

O'Neal would neither confirm nor deny the source's account Sunday, saying he would not speak publicly on the matter until after he talks with Bates this morning.

"I've been discussing it with people all weekend," O'Neal said, but would not say

whether he has decided one way or the other. O'Neal told the DTH Friday, "I haven't seen anywhere in the (student) constitution where the president has the power to fire an official such as the attorney general or the treasurer."

Bates originally sent O'Neal a letter suggesting he resign last Thursday, but rescinded it later in the day.

Bates said Sunday he wants to receive O'Neal's decision formally before commenting. But he added, "I think the power to appoint entails the power to fire." Asked if he would take the issue before the

Supreme Court if O'Neal refuses to leave, Bates replied, "That would be a possibility." The two letters requesting O'Neal's resignation have not been made available to

the press, but Bates and members of his staff have said the resignation would be in the best interests of the student body.

Since being sworn in as treasurer last April, O'Neal has frozen the funds of eight organizations for alleged treasury law

O'Neal's critics have said the treasurer's actions were too severe for the alleged violations, some of which occurred over a year ago. Complaints have also been heard that O'Neal did not warn either the groups involved or Student Government officials before he froze the funds.

O'Neal said last Thursday, "I won't help any man break the law, whether he's my president or whatever. If they want me to resign because I'm upholding the law, that speaks for that."

Billy Richardson, former executive assistant to Bates, resigned last week, saying O'Neal's actions overshadowed all other activities of Bates's administration.

Bates tried to overrule O'Neal last week by ordering most of the Black Student Movement funds released. O'Neal had frozen the BSM money last July after discovering alleged treasury law violations by the Gospel Choir, an affiliate of BSM. The Campus Governing Council then upheld the fund freeze.

Following Bates's announcement Wednesday directing the funds' release, the CGC Finance Committee endorsed his action. However, O'Neal refused to approve the release. Thursday, O'Neal and Finance Committee Chairperson Bill Strickland refroze the funds.

Treasury laws provide that the president can direct the actions of the treasurer, subject to the approval of CGC.

Only CGC can order him to release the funds, and only CGC can remove him from office by impeachment, O'Neal said last

The DTH source said O'Neal "didn't feel CGC has the votes to remove him."

given the next grade lower.

Leutze introduced a motion to have his plan reconsidered, saying, "I believe that this is a more accurate and more fair system to

He said by allowing more accurate grading, the plan would help solve grade inflation, although he added that the plan's effects cannot be determined unless the plan is implemented.

About 150 students attended the meeting, but many of them had left by the time Student Body President Bill Bates addressed

Bates criticized the Morrow committee plan, saying it would place UNC students at a competitive disadvantage with students from other universities when they apply for graduate and professional schools and jobs. He also urged postponement of the discussion, saying a new Committee on Educational Policy (which had been created that day by the faculty) should discuss the

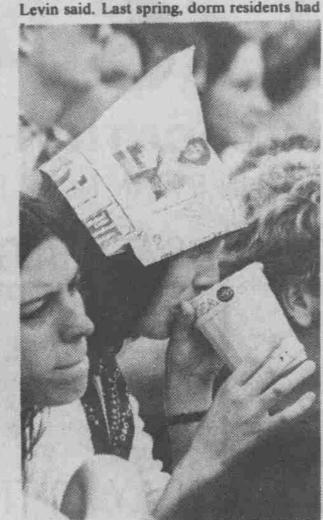
"The Committee on Educational Policy would be a perfect place to deal with this," Bates said. "We'd hate to see a complex problem like grade inflation solved in five minutes."

come up with the best solution possible."

of the student Academic Affairs Committee, have recommended a third proposal. The plan, now used in the law school, would

department and the ad hoc committee.

appoints a program director.



Students look on as Student Body President Bill Bates (right)

confers with Henry C. Boren, secretary of the faculty (left),

Revising residence hall solicitation policy

and improving dorm sign-up procedures are

two of a number of issues that face the the

Residence Hall Association (RHA) this

year, according to RHA co-president Jay

solicitation policy in response to the

difficulty recently encountered by the Daily

Orientation issue door-to-door in some

Tar Heel in distributing a section of its

Housing now requires a permit for any

door-to-door solicitation, but Levin said he

thinks students should not be strictly denied

the opportunity to distribute information to

devise a better dorm sign-up procedure,

RHA will also work with Housing to

other students.

Levin said RHA will reassess its dorm

Two ways of keeping cool during the UNC-Maryland game Saturday. Stories on pages 4 and 5.

Media Board dissolution halted

by Dan Fesperman Staff Writer

The dissolution of the old Media Board has been temporarily stopped by a Student Supreme Court restraining order granted to nine members of that board.

The nine members sought the order to oppose new Media Board bylaws written last Tuesday by board chairperson Dick Pope and approved that day by the Campus Governing Council.

The new bylaws had dissolved the old Media Board and authorized Pope and George Bacso, treasurer of the old Media Board, to act as an interim board until a new board is established.

CGC approved the new bylaws because, according to Pope, no complete and verified copies of the old bylaws could be found. But Bill Moss, a member of the old Media Board, said he and several other people have complete copies of the old bylaws.

Pope said yesterday he did finally find a complete copy but not a verified one. He said Sunday he proposed new bylaws because the Media Board and all

publications under its financial control have technically been operating on illegal funds since May 16, the beginning of the fiscal year. These operations were illegal, he said, because the old bylaws were unverified.

Pope said he did not realize the bylaws were unverified until Friday, Sept. 12, four days before he wrote the new bylaws.

Several of the board members who sought the restraining order said they believe Pope has overstepped his authority by writing the bylaws without consulting any members of the old board during the four-day interval. "It's unbelievable the things he's been doing," Moss said. "He's apparently trying

to run a one man show." Rob Price, another of those who sought the court order, said, "Dick Pope has tried to run the Media Board on his own, and we will

not stand for it." But Pope said he had contacted one member of the old board, Student Body Treasurer Mike O'Neal. He said he also

attempted unsuccessfully to contact Bacso. Pope said he failed to contact everyone on the old board because it was a weekend and he was too busy with his duties as a CGC member during the Black Student Movement controversy.

Several members of the old board said they also opposed the voting provisions in the new bylaws. The provisions make the board too political, they said.

The new bylaws designate as non-voting members: the board's secretary, the Student Activities Fund Office director, a faculty member from the business school, a faculty member from the journalism school and representatives from the Daily Tar Heel, the Yackety Yack, the Carolina Quarterly, the Cellar Door and WCAR radio. By the old bylaws they were all voting members.

"He (Pope) just decimated the old bylaws," Moss said. "Under the new bylaws the Media Board is almost totally political." Pope said he changed the voting

provisions because the CGC Administration Committee had told him that such a revision would be necessary before the bylaws would

Pope said, legally, the funds of the Media Board should be frozen, since they are technically illegal.

on how they would operate.

This would also freeze the funds of the

Daily Tar Heel, the Yackety Yack, the Carolina Quarterly, the Cellar Door and WCAR because their funds are controlled by the Media Board. "Under the laws of the CGC, and to protect the power of the CGC, they should freeze the funds," he said.

He said a member of the CGC's Administration Committee told him the funds would not be frozen, and Pope said he feels that this is because of the recent controversy involving the funds of the Daily

He said he could not give his opinion on freezing Media Board funds because of a conflict of personal interests.

Student Supreme Court Chief Justice, Darrell Hancock, said that the restraining order prevents the old Media Board from being dissolved. However, the order does not return the old board to power.

He said that if the Media Board had to rule on something today, there must be an agreement between the old and new boards

The court will hear the board members' case at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday to determine the legal composition of the Media Board.

among issues that confront RHA

Solicitation policy, dorm sign-up

to pay a non-refundable \$50 room deposit

and Chancellor Taylor.

fee and often had to wait in line overnight to reserve their spaces. Levin, who presides over RHA with Lars Nance, cited five other areas of concern for this year's RHA: solicitation policy, the sign-up process, dorm improvements, dormitory social fees, orientation funding, overcrowding and residence hall treasury

Because of HEW's Title IX, the housing department may be forced to convert some high-quality women's halls into men's halls and some lower-quality men's halls into women's. RHA will study which dormitories could most easily be converted.

A campus-wide referendum to decide whether residents should raise their dormitory social fee by \$1 will be held on Oct. 8, and RHA will conduct a publicity drive urging students to voice opinions on

Also, RHA will attempt to promote a

campus referendum on whether the cost of freshman orientation should be borne by all students or just by incoming freshmen. Currently, a portion of each student's fees goes to the Orientation Commission for its

Staff photos by Charles Hardy

Levin expressed interest in solving the overcrowding problem. At the beginning of this semester, 70 rooms were overcrowded as compared with 60 last year and 583 in the fall

Levin also said some outdated laws affecting treasury procedures for dorms may have to be rewritten under the auspices of the student body treasurer.

In its first meeting last Thursday, RHA representatives were assigned to look into each of these problems. In addition, RHA members will investigate difficulty recently encountered in obtaining dorm enhancement funds from the housing department and a new policy which restricts students from selling their room contracts.

Hearing tonight onrezoningplan

by Jim Roberts **News Editor**

Rezoning orders which would prohibit the construction of new fraternity and sorority houses in the area surrounding Rosemary and Hillsborough streets will be brought for a public hearing before the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen Monday night.

If approved, the zoning amendments would also prohibit the expansion of the two existing sororities and one fraternity in the The two areas are now zoned for family

homes, fraternities and sororities. The rezoning order would allow family dwellings One zoning amendment covers the area

north and south of East Rosemary Street and east of Hillsborough Street. Included in this area is the Delta Upsilon fraternity house, the subject of a recent controversy concerning a proposed addition to the house, and the Alpha Delta Pi sorority The second rezoning order concerns the

area north of East Rosemary Street between Spring Lane and Hillsborough Street. The Kappa Alpha Theta sorority house is located Because petitions protesting the rezoning

were signed by residents of the concerned area, three-fourths of the aldermen must approve the rezoning orders, Zoning Administrator Art Berger said Thursday. State law requires a three-fourths vote if 20 per cent of the residents in the affected

area sign the protest petition. Berger said 94 per cent of the residents of the tract east of Hillsborough Street signed a protest petition, while 84 per cent of the residents living in the area between Hillsborough Street and Spring Lane signed

a similar petition. The zoning amendments were originally recommended by the Planning Board on June 3 of this year. The Planning Board's reasoning was, "Unless the area is rezoned, it will open the door to other fraternities,"

Alderman Alice Welsh said the Board of Aldermen should consider the historical significance of the Rosemary Street area.

Berger said.

She suggested the town rezone the areas surrounding the existing fraternities and sororities but not the property where the fraternities and sororities are located.

"I don't think that (the proposed changes) would be in the best interests of the sororities and fraternities," she said. The existing houses should be protected, she added. Alderman Gerry Cohen would take no

position on the rezoning prior to Monday's public hearing. "I haven't yet seen a need for the change," he said. "But that area has a lot of fraternities and sororities already. When you talk about zoning you have to look in terms of the whole town." In addition to prohibiting expansion of

prohibit rebuilding a fraternity or sorority house, if the house is damaged in excess of 60 per cent of its assessed value. Delta Upsilon representative Alan Pugh said it is unfair to prohibit the reconstruction of damaged houses, because some of the

the existing houses, the rezoning would

organizations have made large investments in house renovations. Delta Upsilon was granted a special use permit last Monday to build an \$180,000 addition to its Rosemary Street house. Berger said the proposed zoning changes would not affect the DU addition.

Fraternities and sororities in the area of Franklin, Rosemary and Hillsborough streets are important to students because the houses give students an alternative to living in dormitories and apartments, Pugh said.

Neighbors of the Delta Upsilon fraternity opposed the fraternity's special use permit, because they said the originally planned addition would increase the noise coming from the house. However, Welsh said noise is not the major issue in the rezoning

question. The neighbors are concerned with the proliferation of fraternities and sororities there, she said. "The town just needs to determine how the neighborhood will go in the future."

Following the public hearing scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday in the basement of the Municipal Building, the ordinances will be sent to the Planning Board and then to the Board of Aldermen to approval.