

Campus

Groups aid graduate students

By STEPHEN BRYAN
Staff Writer

Just like freshmen and transfers, graduate students need to learn about the UNC campus and the many activities and programs offered. The Graduate and Professional Student Federation (GPSF), along with the Orientation Office, are trying to make life a little easier for these students.

The GPSF is launching new ventures to help graduate students, and is currently compiling a manual to be published this fall. The manual will offer students survival tips, such as time management. "We are actively seeking out new information to include," said Richard Cody, president of GPSF.

Cody says that there are many worries facing grad students. "One of the biggest problems is the signifi-

cant increase in workload. For example, medical students can easily have twice the workload than experienced at the undergraduate level." Cody reminds students that because of the enormous amount of material, they can't learn it all. "Being told that this is normal eases the burden," says Cody. The manual will offer other advice from current graduate students taken from recent surveys.

The Orientation Office also offers grad students information and advice to make the transition easier. A packet of materials, including a graduate guide, was mailed to grad students over the summer. In conjunction with the GPSF, the Orientation Office is planning a common orientation meeting for all new graduate students beginning next fall. Currently, graduate students are introduced to the University by their

individual departments of interest.

The effect of the orientation program is being questioned though, by some students. Mary Ann Davis, first-year graduate student, felt that more orientation material is needed. "It would be beneficial to have some type of graduate orientation for the whole University, and not just each graduate department." She feels that she was somewhat left in the dark about the University, saying that her request for a handbook of information was ignored.

Despite some criticism, both the GPSF and Orientation Office hope to welcome all graduate students to the University. With information guides from both the Orientation Office and the GPSF, these offices hope to make settling in at the University an easier task.

Traffic expected to worsen

By CAMERON TEW
Staff Writer

A study by the Transportation Work Group this summer predicts that the transportation problem in Chapel Hill and Carrboro will increase with no solution in sight, John Evans, spokesman for the group, said Monday.

"Transportation in Chapel Hill and Carrboro is a problem that can only get worse in the future," Evans said in a presentation to the Coordination Consultation Committee (CCC) at the Institute of Government.

The group's objective was to examine the effects of transportation and traffic around the University. The group was made up of representatives from the University, Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

The group could not find any clear solutions to the transportation problem, but it did gather information for the Chapel Hill Town Council and the Carrboro Board of Aldermen to use in deciding how to handle transportation in the area.

"We tried to establish goals that would appeal to all groups in the area, but we found most of the desired goals to be mutually inconsistent," Evans said.

The University's objective for constant change and the towns' desire to

preserve small-town atmospheres often conflict, he said. "With so many differing points of view, we found our job to be more informative than decision-making."

There are several areas that need to be addressed, including traffic congestion around central campus, Evans said. "There are 24,000 trips being made daily to campus and by the year 2010 that number is projected to increase to 54,000."

Another major concern of the group was the improvements that need to be made to Columbia, Pittsboro and Boundary streets and to Country Club Drive. Evans said the traffic congestion on these streets needs immediate attention, but the group had no clear recommendations to offer the committee.

The limited amount of parking in Chapel Hill and on campus should also be addressed, the committee reported. Evans said people should be encouraged to use the mass transit system, but noted it would only have a minimal effect.

The group's study showed only 600 of the 6,000 faculty in the Chapel Hill area use the bus, Evans said. "If we could get that number up to 15 percent that would be a heroic effort."

The problems will be difficult to

solve for government officials because of conflicting opinions of people within the towns, Evans said. "This is a study that the town council will have to make a decision on without counting votes."

Chancellor Paul Hardin, a member of the CCC, said he felt mass transportation was a more favorable option than providing an increased number of parking lots.

"I wonder when a small town will realize it is becoming a major city and begin to deal with its traffic problem," Hardin said.

Hardin was disappointed with the group's failure to give both town councils recommendations to consider, he said. "I don't mean to be unsympathetic, but I wonder where the town councils go from here."

He added that his disappointment came from the group's not being faced with political consequences in making recommendations. "I've never been in a situation where so many groups say the transportation problem cannot be solved," Hardin said.

Chapel Hill Mayor Jonathan Howes, chairman of the CCC, said a full report on the transportation and traffic report would be completed for the next meeting on Nov. 6.

Granville residents express interest in installation of condom machines

By STEPHANIE JOHNSTON
Staff Writer

Some Granville Towers residents, as a reaction to the installation of condom machines in residence hall restrooms, are calling for the machines to be installed in the public restrooms at Granville Towers.

Last week unknown students placed copies of a cartoon, depicting a naked male and female and stating that students can buy condoms on campus but not in Granville, beside elevator doors in several Granville halls. The copies have since been removed.

Melvyn Rinfret, general manager of Granville Towers, said installation of condom machines was being discussed at a higher level of management.

"I've mentioned it to my people. They are now discussing the national policy," Rinfret said.

Officials at Granville said they had not heard from any students who want condom machines installed in the restrooms.

"Students haven't talked with me. I wish they would let me know what they think about it," Rinfret said.

Frank Gardner, area director for Granville Towers, said he hadn't heard from students either, although he did hear a rumor about the cartoon.

Most of the students interviewed said they felt condom machines should be installed in Granville in an effort to promote safe sex and because condom machines have been put in residence halls.

"They're necessary here if they are in the dorms in order to be consistent," said Jennifer Toplin, a resident assis-

tant at Granville. "They would only promote safe sex, not condone sex."

"Anytime you can stop pregnancy or diseases you should do all you can. It would be a safety measure," said Larry Stone, a sophomore who lives in Granville.

"Granville is an alternative to University housing," said Jill Rosenberg, a sophomore Granville resident. "If it's going to be done there, Granville will have to do it like University housing."

But some students would prefer that other projects get higher priority than condom dispensers.

"I'd rather see the money spent on increasing the quality of food and doing small maintenance," said Ted Townsend, a sophomore Granville resident. "If students want condoms they can go across the street to Ken's Quick Stop. I don't think there would be any mass opposition if they put them in. It's a question of priorities."

Jonathan Martin, (Dist. 8) one of two Granville Towers representatives to Student Congress, said some students had come to him questioning why Granville wasn't installing condom machines when the machines were put in residence halls.

The Student Congress passed a resolution last spring encouraging the installation of condom machines in residence halls. Speaker Gene Davis said the resolution did include Granville because it encourages, but doesn't mandate, the machines' installation.

"Those students at Granville Towers who express an interest in providing condom vending machines can rest

assured the Student Congress will do all within its power to follow up on their concerns," Davis said.

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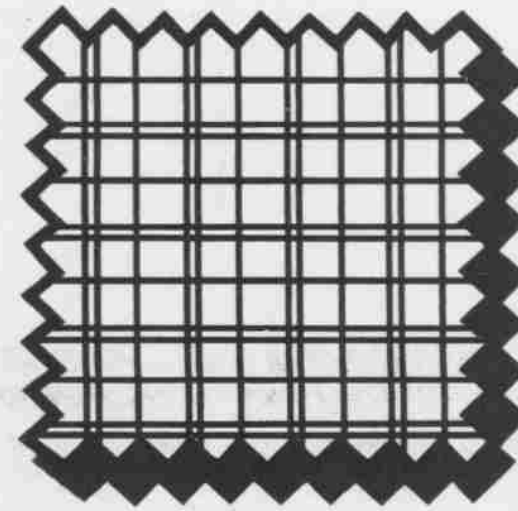


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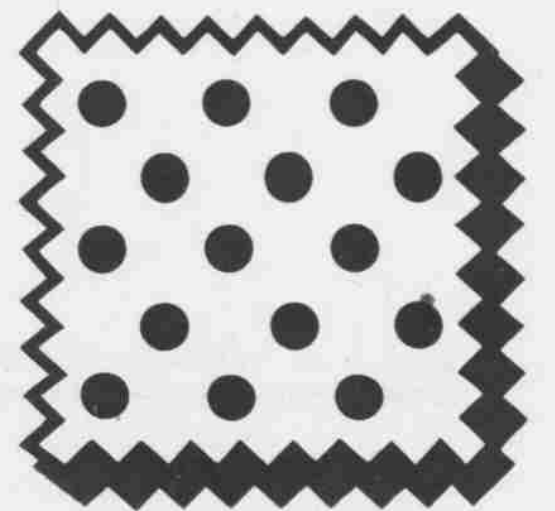
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