

FOOD TRUCKS

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owner here.”

Pettis parks in front of those businesses because regulations stipulate food trucks must operate in conjunction with a certified establishment. Mobile units must visit that establishment at least once a day for cleaning purposes.

Pettis said his business would benefit from relaxed regulations — an opinion he'll voice by attending the public forum.

“This business is all based on foot traffic pretty much,” Pettis said. “There is a lot more foot traffic here than there is in Carrboro.

“We have a lot to say, and all we want is equal opportunity.”

Pettis said the ideal place to operate would be on UNC's campus in order to capture the student market, where the lack of seating, heating and air conditioning might not be as much of a deterrent.

The town's regulations do not apply to UNC's campus.

“I think it would be a great idea to have them for kids who don't want to walk to Franklin and who

“We have a lot to say, and all we want is equal opportunity.”

WILL PETTIS, FOOD TRUCK CO-OWNER, ON WHY TRUCKS SHOULD HAVE A PRESENCE AND VOICE IN CHAPEL HILL

are tired of the dining hall,” said sophomore Courtney Coyle.

The council has posted the meeting's agenda, the proposal and comments from residents on the subject on the town website.

“I would like to see a few food trucks, not only do they usually serve tasty food, and quickly, but also add to a more colorful downtown,” wrote resident Barbara Nettesheim, whose comment was one in a compiled list that was included in the public forum packet.

Overall the comments on the website support the initiative, showing only some concern about the sanitation of the establishments.

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ELECTION

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dent body president while serving as student body secretary.

“He tried to mislead students, and I wanted to show them how I felt,” Ingram said in an interview, adding that he also saw Cooper as the superior candidate.

Cooper said the endorsement was a welcome surprise.

“It was a nice surprise, and I do appreciate Rick staying involved in the process,” she said.

Votes in student government elections in the past 10 years have generally increased at noon. Andrew Phillips, chairman of the Board of Elections, said the uptick in voting at lunchtime makes the effect of the endorsement unclear.

“I hope it helped, but I don't think it put her over the top,” Ingram said.

A total of 3,992 students voted in Friday's runoff election, a drop of about 44 percent from the general election's 7,105 votes, and a 27.4 percent drop from the 2010 runoff election's 5,499 votes.

Cooper attributed the decline to

the length of the election.

“Even when there's the slightest doubt, students are less interested because of the uncertainty,” she said.

Fourth-place finisher Brooklyn Stephens said voters grew fatigued with the emphasis on rules.

“This year, they were a little bit overwhelmed,” she said.

The Student Code states that runoff elections will be held a week after the general election. Because of the injunction, the runoff was held 17 days after the general election.

“People are still struggling to see what student government is doing for them, and maybe they don't see elections worth their time,” Ingram said.

Cooper said she wants to give student government a more positive and efficient image.

“Some students outside of student government get turned away from the rules and pettiness that emerges,” she said. “My campaign was about what student government can do for students.”

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BREAK-INS

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bit of shared responsibility and partnering can go a long way,” he said.

Although the burglaries didn't occur on campus, Young said the incident should serve as a warning to all students.

“It's a reminder to the campus environment to maintain a level of alertness and to report all suspi-

cious activity,” he said.

Smith said she and Dravis had their locks changed Saturday. They have a set of two keys, and they don't plan on making any more or hiding a spare outside.

“Don't leave a key for someone in an obvious place,” Smith said. “If someone needs to get in the house, you can let them in.”

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PERSUASION

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“The student body president has a vote, and that's power,” said Winston Crisp, vice chancellor for student affairs.

“But that one vote is one vote out of a number of votes, so is it itself enough?”

This involvement paves the way for relationships that can slowly work to change policy, said David Bevevino, former student body vice president.

“In so many situations, the student body president ends up being the only student in a room full of administrators,” he said. “Those small interactions add up.”

Medlin emphasized general rhetorical ability as key for the student body president, so much so that he said issue-based debates should no longer make up as much of the campaign season.

“Your ideas are great and your platform is great but in terms of your job and your biggest priority, that's when you want to elect someone who can talk,” he said.

Far fewer students voted in Friday's runoff election, highlighting the age-old issue of voter apathy in campus elections and lack of engagement from students in student government.

Instead of conducting broad surveys of student opinion, Medlin said he interacts with as many student groups as possible.

'Not a campus issue'

Each year, the board approves a tuition proposal to pass on to the

UNC-system Board of Governors and, eventually, the N.C. General Assembly.

Medlin said statewide economic forces will always outweigh the importance of any campuswide effort to limit tuition increases.

“It's not a campus issue, honestly, anymore,” he said.

“Obviously, the strategy of campus-based tuition is one that we shouldn't be focusing on.”

Jasmin Jones, Medlin's predecessor, whose tuition recommendation of a 5.2 percent increase was adopted in 2009 before the legislature tacked on an additional \$750, agreed with Medlin.

“It all depends on the pressing issues around the state,” she said. “All those pressures add together in how you are able to be successful or unsuccessful. It varies year to year.”

With about a month remaining in his term, Medlin said he now believes that lobbying would be most effective with the Board of Governors and state legislature.

The extent of the student body president's influence on tuition deliberations boils down to one voice among many, Winston said.

“The persuasion is important but it doesn't always win the day,” he said.

“Everybody has an opinion and the opinions are usually a collective group that form around an opinion and that's usually what gets passed. This is the way politics works.”

Staff Writer Victoria Cook contributed reporting.

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Laurie Maffly-Kipp, religious studies & American studies (UNC)

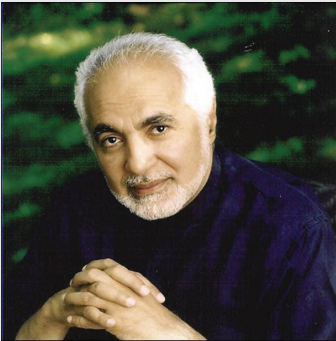
Timothy Marr, American studies (UNC)

Moderated by *Omid Safi*, Islamic studies (UNC)

* Hyde Hall is located on McCorkle Place, across from the Johnston Center.

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