

New CCI laptop models are ready for order

Distribution of CCI laptops to new students began this week.

By Sam Schaefer
Staff Writer

All Carolina Computing Initiative laptops are now in stock, after the release of the new Apple MacBook Pro models caused a delay.

The distribution of the new MacBooks to incoming students began at this week's New Student Orientation.

Incoming students whose computers had not arrived when they attended orientation must pick them up at a later date,

said David Eckert, CCI program manager.

In years past, all laptops would have been handed out to new students at their orientation. This year, the late introduction of the newest models of both Lenovo ThinkPads and MacBooks forced changes in the schedule.

"These babies are less than a week old," said John Gorsuch, director of UNC Student Stores, about the new MacBooks.

The new models of MacBooks, which were introduced by Apple on June 11, are faster and offer more processing power than the previous models.

Students ordering their laptops through CCI will receive the

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Alexis Petteway, UNC freshman

standard 13 or 15-inch MacBook Pro, rather than the more advanced 15-inch model. The more advanced model is slimmer and features a high-resolution retina display.

Intel introduced new processors that give the new models from Apple and Lenovo greater processing power and use less energy.

The cheapest laptop available through the program is the \$1,303 ThinkPad T430, which can be paid for entirely by a CCI grant, according to Gorsuch.

CCI is also offering two other types of Lenovo laptops and a tablet.

The cheapest MacBook available, the 13-inch MacBook Pro, costs \$339 more than the T430.

The University began requiring all undergraduates to purchase laptops in 2000, and CCI has offered laptop packages to all incoming students since then. The package includes software and a four-year warranty.

Gorsuch said students should get their laptops through the CCI program; citing cost, special

four-year insurance and warranty offered by the program, access to loaner computers and the full services of 24-hour on-campus tech support.

Incoming freshman Alexis Petteway bought her laptop through CCI because of this support.

"Knowing that I had a backup if the computer was broken or stolen or anything — that was really reassuring," she said.

Some incoming students prefer to buy their laptops independently due to limited selection.

Last year was the first year the program offered Apple laptops and Eckert said students bought the same number of MacBooks as Lenovos.

The data on sales for this

year's models is not yet available because not all computers have been ordered yet. Many laptops are ordered in August before the start of classes.

Many students said they choose Lenovo or Apple based on their familiarity with the software.

"I didn't want to come to college and switch over," said incoming freshman Jack Harrison, who purchased a Lenovo.

Petteway instead chose a MacBook Pro because of its convenience and popularity.

"I felt it was easier to use, and a lot of people are getting them now," she said.

Contact the University Editor at university@dailytarheel.com.

FAMILY JOINS ADOPTION SUIT



COURTESY OF THE FISHER-BORNE FAMILY

Chantelle Fisher-Borne (left) holds her biological son, seven-month-old Elijah, and Marcie Fisher-Borne (right) holds her biological daughter, four-year-old Miley.

ACLU filed the lawsuit to allow second parent adoption

By Samuel Mason
Staff Writer

The Fisher-Bornes are a family in every sense of the word — except legally. They are entering a lawsuit that seeks to unify their family and others like theirs in the eyes of the law.

Marcie and Chantelle — both UNC alumni — have lived together for 15 years and are raising two children together. Miley is Marcie's biological daughter and Elijah is Chantelle's biological son.

But the state does not recognize the children's legal relationship to their birth mother's partner.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit last week on behalf of six families — including the Fisher-Bornes — against the state seeking to change the law to allow for second parent adoption.

This would allow Marcie and Chantelle to become legal parents to Elijah and Miley respectively, said Chris Brook, legal director of the ACLU of North Carolina.

Current state law allows individuals in unmarried relationships to legally adopt children, but precludes their partner from adopting the child unless the first parent relinquishes all existing parental rights.

The Fisher-Bornes worry that this could turn a visit to the doctor into a potential nightmare.

"If we find ourselves in a health care situation, we're never really sure if there's going to be an issue,"

said Marcie.

The complaint alleges that N.C. General Statutes discriminate against the children on the basis of their parents' sexuality by preventing them from legally having two unmarried parents.

Prior to 2010, at least 250 same-sex couples were able to obtain decrees for second parent adoptions in Orange and Durham county courts, based on a loose interpretation of adoption statutes, Brook said.

But Holning Lau, a professor at the UNC School of Law, said that a 2010 state Supreme Court ruling nullified the decrees, stating that district courts did not have the authority to interpret the adoption statutes in such a manner.

Brook said the current law violates the rights of same-sex couples and their families.

"The Constitution mandates that parents involved in the case have a right to equal parenting," he said. "All parents should have equal opportunity to adopt if it's in the best interest of the children."

But not everyone supports the plaintiffs.

Kami Mueller, spokeswoman for the N.C. Values Coalition, said same-sex couples are not permitted to marry in the state, and the lawsuit is part of an effort to undermine the structure of traditional families.

"(This lawsuit is) potentially a foot in the door for an attack on marriage," she said. "The ACLU is attempting to force same-sex adoption, and eventually

"The case is very important, win or lose, because it is an important conversation starter on the issue ..."

Holning Lau,
UNC School of Law professor

same-sex marriage, on N.C. through the courts."

Lau said the case has the potential to change the way people envision families.

"The case is very important, win or lose, because it is an important conversation starter on the issue of second parent adoption," Lau said.

Brook said the lawsuit was not motivated by the May passage of Amendment One — an amendment to the state constitution that defined marriage between a man and a woman as the only legal union in North Carolina. He said it was motivated instead by a desire to further establish the legal relationship between parents and their children.

"We want to continue to be who we've always been to our children — their parents — but with the state's support," Marcie said. "That's what they need and what they deserve."

Contact the State & National Editor at state@dailytarheel.com.

in BRIEF

CAMPUS BRIEFS

UNC to fund study abroad for more than 150 students

UNC will provide more than \$650,000 in scholarships, fellowships and program support for students studying abroad in the 2012-13 academic year. The awards are funded through private gifts to the College of Arts and Sciences.

UNC has one of the highest rates among public universities for students studying abroad — more than one-third of undergraduates.

Carolina Performing Arts receives Mellon grant funds

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded a five-year grant to Carolina Performing Arts to create Arts@TheCore, a program designed to promote collaboration between the arts and academics at UNC.

The grant will also provide funding for the Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Scholar for Carolina Performing Arts. The first Mellon Distinguished Scholar will be UNC professor Joy Kasson.

CITY BRIEFS

Public invited to an update on the Carolina North progress

UNC will hold a public information meeting for local residents about Carolina North Wednesday.

The meeting will discuss construction updates, including changes made to the utilities ductbank, the installation of a landfill gas pipeline and generator, planned designs of a greenway and general updates on the Collaborative Science Building, which is the first building to be constructed on the site.

UNC officials will also talk about the approved modifications to the conservation areas and the search for a third-party monitor to guarantee UNC's compliance with the boundaries.

The meeting will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Magnolia Conference Room of the Giles F. Horney Building at 103 Airport Drive.

Town will look for new fluids provider for transit services

The town of Chapel Hill is seeking bids for motor oil, multi-grade engine oil, hydraulic oil and grease to be delivered in bulk for buses in the Chapel Hill Transit Department.

Bids are due by July 2 at 4 p.m. Questions can be sent to Carl Rokos, at crokos@townofchapel-hill.org.

—From staff and wire reports

Hans to focus on efficiency, lobbying as leader

New chairman will continue many of Gage's initiatives.

By Vinayak Balasubramanian
State & National Editor

After serving as chairwoman of the UNC-system Board of Governors for four years, Hannah Gage's term will end June 30.

The board chose Peter Hans, the current vice chairman, to replace Gage at its meeting Friday.

Both leaders have spoken recently about their vision for the future, as the UNC system is forced to continue finding ways to be efficient and effective in the fight for state funding.

Gage recounts challenges, accomplishments as chair

Gage said her two terms have

been marked by significant economic challenges and changes in the state's political leadership.

The system has absorbed more than \$1 billion in state funding cuts over the past five years.

Meanwhile, the board approved an average systemwide tuition and fee increase of 8.8 percent, including a 13.5 percent hike, for in-state undergraduates at UNC-Chapel Hill.

This has led students and their families to question the viability of the system's low tuition model.

Gage said the economic recession and changes in the state legislature have made it increasingly difficult for the UNC system to rely on the state for funding.

"We used to have a very strong relationship and were very successful in getting the kind of funding we needed," she said.

"Even though the new leadership is supportive of the university system, funding is no longer a slam-dunk."



Hannah Gage has served two terms as Board of Governors chair. Her term ends June 30, but she will remain on the board.

She said the system must focus on keeping tuition affordable.

"If tuition is beyond the grasp of state families, we can look twenty years down the line and see a very uneducated state," she said. "Given the clear change in demographics of our state, affordable tuition will be more important."

Despite the challenges, Gage said she was proud of how UNC schools have adapted to the changing environment.

Gage said she was proud of the UNC system's shift toward a performance-based funding model and away from the traditional enrollment funding model.

The new model allocates funding to schools based on their ability to meet specific goals — including retention, six-year graduation rates and degree efficiency.

She said she was happy that the university system has increased its online education efforts, which makes education accessible to a greater number of students.

Gage said she expects Hans to continue many of the same initiatives she started when his term begins July 1.

Hans expected to focus on managing resources better

Hans, a 1991 graduate of UNC-CH, said his experience with working with legislators will help him effectively communicate the board's priorities with legislators.

"Republicans and Democrats have been supportive of the UNC system in past years, but as the economy declined, it has forced



Peter Hans is a policy advisor and incoming chair of the Board of Governors. He has served on the board since 2003.

them to make decisions between a number of competing priorities," he said.

He said his focus as chair will be to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the UNC system. He said this is a crucial step in helping the university system during trying times.

"We can educate as many students as possible at the highest quality as possible, while doing so at a reasonable cost," he said. He said the use of online technology is a great way to save money over time.

Hans said he supports returning to former UNC-system President Erskine Bowles' Four-Year Tuition

Plan. The 2006 plan holds university administrators accountable for keeping the tuition increases at or below a 6.5 percent cap for undergraduate resident students.

The board currently uses the Second Four-Year Plan — which allows schools to ask for tuition increases above 6.5 percent for undergraduate in-state students in times of need.

"It is important for students and families to make college affordable, and thus maintain the state's constitutional commitment to low tuition," he said.

Hans said the budget cuts faced by the state have provided an opportunity for the board to rethink its priorities.

"Anytime you recommit to setting priorities and increasing collaboration across campuses, that's a silver lining in the cloud," he said.

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