

ROSS
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tion it's going to — it already has.

I was trying to emphasize financial aid because, as we know now, 6,000 students that received aid last year won't receive it this year.

I hope that where we ended up, we can make it through this without permanent damage and, over time, reinvest in the University and build it to the kind of high quality system we've always had.

DTH: Why did UNC receive the largest cut among all the system

schools, including institutions of comparable size like N.C. State University?

TR: We took into account the fact that some of our entities can't charge tuition to offset cuts. And that's one place where there's a difference between Chapel Hill and State, that the agricultural extension program that falls under State is not a part of that institution. It's part of their budget but they're not allowed to charge tuition.

We looked at the availability of other funds. Carolina's state appropriation makes up for a little

less than 25 percent of its budget and it makes up over 40 percent of State's budget.

DTH: UNC administrators had previously expressed interest in supplemental tuition increases to offset state funding cuts. Did they change their minds after you advised against more tuition increases?

TR: Certainly some additional tuition increases would help, but what I have said to Chancellor Thorp is that everyone, including the Board of Governors, is looking now at the peer groups that we use to compare campuses.

We're going to refresh that process and make sure we have the right peer groups, and we're going to go through a quite detailed analysis of where we are in tuition and whether or not we think it should be adjusted.

And I think that Chancellor Thorp, hearing that — hearing that we're serious about taking a hard look at where we are — was more than willing to go along with our decision.

DTH: What is your vision for the system moving forward as schools attempt to do more with less after \$1 billion in state funding cuts

during the last five years?

TR: The University of North Carolina is very highly regarded and considered by most everyone as one of the top university systems in America. We want to grow that reputation, and we want to grow that quality. That has to be our primary focus and our primary mission.

It seems that we're going to need to make the case to rebuild some of the resources that we've lost. We'll also have to check priorities and reallocate resources to be sure that we're putting them in the right place.

There are a lot of things that the University does to affect the people of North Carolina, whether or not they attend the University or there's a University branch in their town. The University has been a real driver for economic growth in the state, and we don't want to lose that.

And it's not really what my vision is. This is about what the vision of the people of North Carolina is and was when the University was formed.

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

REDISTRICTING
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like that for redistricting," he said. "At this point, somebody will file a lawsuit no matter what."

State and federal scrutiny

Laurenz said there have been at least 25 cases brought against state electoral maps in the last two decades. Thornburg v. Gingles, a U.S. Supreme Court case that originated in the state in the 1980s, provided the basis for the protection of minority voting rights in Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Laurenz said majority-minority districts will likely receive federal "preclearance" from the U.S. Department of Justice based on the department's recent approval of maps for partially Republican-controlled Louisiana and Virginia.

Other potential districts would pose "double-bunking" problems for incumbent lawmakers.

The proposed 23rd district now held by Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, D-Orange, would encompass both Orange and Chatham counties. Kinnaird would face a reelection battle with fellow Democratic Sen. Bob Atwater, who currently represents Chatham county.

House Minority Leader Joe Hackney, D-Orange, would be grouped into the new 56th district with Rep. Verla Insko, D-Orange.

Democrats have also criticized

the proposed congressional districts for the state's 13 U.S. House seats. The percentage of registered Republican voters would increase in four districts occupied by Democratic congressman.

U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., would no longer represent all of Orange and Durham counties if the new maps are approved. Price's new district would be limited to the southern half of both counties and would extend about 80 miles south of Chapel Hill to include a section of Fayetteville.

"This map takes one of the state's most compact districts, the fourth... and scatters it over seven counties," Price said in a statement. "This draft map will and should receive intense scrutiny."

Efforts at reform

Whether Republicans or Democrats are in charge of drawing the districts, the maps will inevitably be skewed for partisan advantage, Laurenz said.

"Either way, it's going to give you that perception out there that these people are sitting down and drawing their own districts," he said. "So, of course, it just makes sense that they're not going to do it in a vacuum."

Rep. William Current, R-Gaston, sponsored a bill in the most recent legislative session that would have enabled the state's nonpartisan Legislative

Services Office to draw districts.

But the bill would not go into effect until after the 2020 census. Current said the state has the resources right now for an independent redistricting process.

"I know we have the technological abilities to do it in an outside commission," he said. "So, in all due respect, I'm not buying that we couldn't have done it that way if we wanted to do it that way."

Current said he hopes to resurrect the stalled bill as a constitutional amendment to prevent future legislatures from politicizing the redistricting process.

"It's kind of sad for one side of the street to be voting for one (legislator) and people on the other side of the street (for someone else)," he said. "It's just hard to take the politics out of anything."

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BUDGET CUTS
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not absorb a further reduction in resources.

Karen Gil, dean of the College, said in an email that she did not know the College's share of budget cuts.

Though Carney said the cuts will have a negative impact on the University, he said he anticipates an improvement in the state's budgetary troubles that will trickle down to UNC.

"The economic forecast is good," he said.

Karen McCall, spokeswoman for UNC Health Care, said talks to transfer funds to UNC began in the spring when legislators were deliberating on the state budget in Raleigh.

The system made a formal proposal when the state funding cuts for the UNC system were finalized last month, she said.



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