

Clashing convictions



DTH/ADDY LEE LIU

Protestors Madeleine Scanlon (left) and Jen Myers were two of the four arrested at the Jan. 26 Board of Governors meeting. Scanlon said the protestors' goals include having the UNC-system President-elect Margaret Spellings fired.

Protesters seek reform from UNC Board of Governors

By Haley McDougal
Senior Writer

Protester Madeleine Scanlon has to complete 24 hours of community service, pay a \$180 fine and can't attend another UNC-system Board of Governors meeting for a year — but much like UNC-system President-elect Margaret Spellings, she says she will not be intimidated.

The UNC senior was arrested at the Jan. 26 board meeting, where protests from students and faculty were met with charges against Scanlon, Irving Allen, Olufemi Shittu and Jennifer Myers.

"I didn't assault anyone, and they charged me with that felony charge to try to intimidate me, to try to scare me ... and it's not going to work," Scanlon said.

In a letter to the editor published in The Daily Tar Heel on Jan. 28 from Shittu, one

of the arrested protesters, Shittu defended the protesters' actions, citing issues with the board's lack of transparency in its search for Spellings, cuts to programs in the humanities while several system chancellors were given raises and an overall problematic approach to maintaining the system's HBCUs.

A vote to cut from East Carolina University's liberal arts department triggered the protesters' actions.

Scanlon's charges included disorderly conduct in a public building, resisting a public officer and assault inflicting personal injury on law enforcement, according to a UNC police arrest report.

After a court appearance Thursday, she said the district attorney decided there wasn't enough evidence to proceed with the felony charge of assaulting an officer. Scanlon said she came out with two misdemeanors for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest,

which have the possibility of being expunged.

An escalating issue

Board member Marty Kotis said despite making himself available in the lobby before the meeting started, he did not think the protesters were really trying to engage board members in discussion.

"That's reiterated by the fact that we had some of these protesters at the December meeting, and there's been no outreach on their parts since December, at least to me and several of the other board members," Kotis said.

Scanlon said the protesters' ultimate goals are to have UNC-system President-elect Margaret Spellings fired, to have the board restructured to be more representative of students and faculty needs

SEE **PROTESTERS**, PAGE 5

GPSF trustee seat uncertain

Experts say they don't know what would happen if GPSF separates.

By Kelly Jasiura
Senior Writer

A potential split between student government and the Graduate and Professional Student Federation could create an issue of student representation on the Board of Trustees — and no one knows what would happen next.

According to N.C. law, each UNC-system school is allowed to have 13 representatives on its Board of Trustees, one of whom should be the president of the student government.

In today's campus elections, students can vote on whether graduate students should start a separate governing body or the student constitution should be revised while keeping the government together. Students can also vote for neither plan.

If separation occurs, the student body president will only represent undergraduate constituents on the board, potentially leaving graduate students without representation unless a second position is created to represent them.

Trustee Charles Duckett said the Board of Governors would decide whether to add a seat — something he said he thought unlikely.

Elliot Engstrom, lead counsel for the Center for Law and Freedom at the Civitas Institute, a right-leaning think tank in Raleigh, said to his knowledge, the BOG has no power to amend or enact laws, and this power lies with the General Assembly.

Engstrom said if the assembly doesn't create an additional seat for GPSF, their best argument is to ask for an equal protection claim using the examples of UNC School of the Arts and the N.C. School of Science and Mathematics — two system schools that have more than 13 representatives on their boards.

"But such a lawsuit would be a steep uphill battle, and it is extremely unlikely that the Federation would prevail," Engstrom said.

David Parker, UNC's general counsel, said the BOT is required to include eight members elected by the Board of Governors, four appointed by the governor and one elected student body president, so changing that would be slow and complicated.

Dylan Russell, president of the GPSF, said if the student body president no longer represents the whole student population, graduate students would need their own seat to keep things fair.

Russell also cited the cases of UNC School of the Arts and the N.C. School of Science and Mathematics.

He argued that UNC-CH is a unique case because it has the largest graduate and professional student population in the UNC system.

Houston Summers, student body president, said he wants every student to be able to hold their student representative on the board accountable.

"I think the process has been simplified so much that it sounds like a good argument when it's worthless speculation and largely unfounded speculation," Summers said.

university@dailytarheel.com

NC requests stay on districting decision

Federal judges ruled two districts were gerrymandered along racial lines.

By Cole Stanley
Staff Writer

During a weekend when most North Carolinians turned their attentions to Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers, a federal court ruled to referee North Carolina's congressional districts — marking a temporary end to the battle over voting district fairness.

North Carolina has already filed an emergency stay with the U.S. Supreme Court after this weekend's decision by three federal judges to throw out the state's congressional voting maps, said Jane Pinsky, director of the North Carolina Coalition for Lobbying and Government Reform.

The stay — if granted — would temporarily suspend judgment on the North Carolina congressional district map until after the primary election season has ended.

According to the district court's opinion, at least two congressional districts — district one, which includes parts of Durham and Greenville, and district 12, which includes part of Charlotte — were gerrymandered along racial lines and require new maps from the state within two weeks' time.

The court determined some of the criteria used to draw voting districts were highly problematic.

"The state was using a threshold count of the black voting age population in the first and 12th districts," said Michael Bitzer, political science professor at

Catawba College. "Using this threshold was an unconstitutional principle on which to base voting districts."

N.C. Rep. Chuck McGrady, R-Henderson, said he doesn't think the district court's decision will gain traction, especially in light of the state's legal challenge and the possibility of more to come.

Bitzer said the state's challenge to the decision is based both in concerns about the limited time available to redraw admissible districts — with the March primary season fast approaching — as well as concerns about the ambiguity of how to deal with the thousands of absentee ballots that have been requested and the hundreds of such ballots that have already been completed and returned.

Pinsky said she doesn't think legal challenges to this ruling will limit or negate the long-term positive effects of the decision on voting district reform.

"At some point they will have to do what the courts tell them to do," she said.

Pinsky said it all has to do with political will, something that is often lacking.

"We have to stop letting those who have the biggest stakes in the outcome make all the rules," she said.

She also emphasized North Carolina's long history of legal battles over congressional maps — in the past 30 years, North Carolina has seen almost as many challenges, she said.

Bitzer said he was not at all surprised by the chaos surrounding the recent ruling or the resulting challenge.

"It's not redistricting season unless there's been a Supreme Court case out of North Carolina," he said.

@ColeStanley2034
state@dailytarheel.com



DTH/MARIA PROKOPOWICZ

The three candidates for student body president face off at the final forum before election day. Polls close at 8 p.m.

Final countdown: Vote today for president

The last debate focused on out-of-state student issues, such as housing.

By Maria Prokopowicz
Staff Writer

Just hours before the polls opened, student body president candidates met Monday for a final debate.

The debate, held by the Out-of-State Student Association, focused on issues that affect the 18 percent of UNC students who come from out of state.

After the debate, the association's political chairperson Justin Stidham said they would endorse candidate Wilson Sink.

"We feel that his ideas are a lot more concrete and that every sort of hypothetical came with a concrete policy idea on things that we had strongly felt about and things we'd never considered before," Stidham said.

Sink and candidate John Taylor both come from North Carolina, while candidate Bradley Opere is from Kenya.

"My home is literally an almost 22-hour flight away, and I haven't been home for almost the last two

years," Opere said.

The candidates were asked how their administrations could benefit out-of-state students. Opere said he wanted to implement programs to help out-of-state students open new bank accounts and socialize to ease the transition into the UNC community.

Taylor said focusing on students' adjustments to UNC is important.

Sink said his administration will advocate for raising Residence Hall Association fees in order to improve residence halls.

SEE **FORUM**, PAGE 5

“Mamma mia, here I go again. My, my, how can I resist you?”

“MAMMA MIA”

Spanish education programs grow

CHCCS programs aim to help the growing Hispanic population.

By Camila Molina
Staff Writer

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools and a local nonprofit have responded to the growth of North Carolina’s under-18 Hispanic population by expanding language programs.

Between 2000 and mid-2014, the under-18 population in North Carolina increased by more than 320,000, according to an article published by EdNC. Hispanics account for around 70 percent of that growth.

CHCCS has five dual language and immersion programs for students. These programs are designed to help students become proficient in another language in addition to English. Four of these programs focus on Spanish.

A Chapel Hill nonprofit, Immersion for Spanish Language Acquisition, has also responded to the increase in Hispanic minors with a non-profit organization that teaches classes in Spanish to children ages 4 to 13 at St. Thomas More School. Immersion for Spanish Language Acquisition offers a three-hour class on Saturdays to promote bilingualism and to improve students’ literacy skills in Spanish.

“This year, we are working on the students being comfortable being Latino students in the public school system,” said Jenice Ramirez, executive director of the program.

Ramirez’s program began in 2012 with only 13 students, now the program serves 103 students from several school districts.

CHCCS offered the first dual language programs in 2002. It expanded the programs during 2011-12 to provide more opportunities for both limited English proficient students and native English speakers.

“I see this as an opportunity to transition from being a monolingual state to bilingual state,” Chapel Hill Town Council member Maria Palmer said. She said she has seen the success of dual language programs since she established the first Spanish immersion preschool in the state.

The Spanish dual language programs in the district reserve 50 percent of the seats for native Spanish speakers and 50 percent for native English. Palmer said the school district should eventually enroll all the students that apply.

“It has tremendous value at it, why would we deny children this opportunity? To me, it’s like denying vaccinations or health insurance.”

School districts also rely on English as a Second Language programs to assist students who need individualized instruction to improve English proficiency. This year, 13 percent of the English learners in North Carolina are Spanish speakers, said Ivanna Mann Thrower Anderson, an ESL consultant for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

“Although the highest percentage of students indicating a home language other than English in North Carolina’s schools are Spanish speakers, there are at least 318 diverse primary languages reported via the home language survey,” Anderson said.

Helen Atkins, ESL coordinator for the school district, said there are 1,345 limited English proficiency students in the district and 661 reported Spanish being their home language. The majority of these students receive direct services from ESL teachers.

Ramirez said too often students are misplaced in ESL programs. The nonprofit organization helps parents find information about different schools and if their children might need ESL testing.

*@Cmolina
city@dailytarheel.com*

PROTESTORS

FROM PAGE 1

and to start a democratic search for a new president.

She said threats of defunding HBCUs in North Carolina, along with cutting majors, have sparked more protests statewide.

“I don’t know why they would be opposed to some of the things that we voted through,” Kotis said. “It just seemed like if we said yes, they were going to say no.”

He said although it was hard to tell what the different groups were protesting specifically, some of the same issues — like chancellor raises — had also raised concern among board members.

“I think several (members) of the board are readily available to talk to people that have a message, so long as it’s a constructive dialogue,” Kotis said.

He said Faculty Forward, one of the protest groups who presented a petition to the board before the meeting, was a good example of a respectful protest, and one he was about to compliment when the meeting was disrupted.

But Scanlon said even with the petition added to the meeting’s minutes, there was no place for the public to speak at the meeting.

“We have handed them petitions; we have handed

them information packets; we have tried the friendly and nice way, and they just don’t listen, and they don’t care and it’s irrelevant to them,” she said.

Future communication

Kotis said a lot of the demands protesters have given are contradictory, like wanting costs of education to be reduced but not wanting any cuts to programs.

“There’s a middle ground out there, and there are some elements that are not so black and white on these issues of where the university needs to be,” he said.

Kotis said the board wants to see more participation from the public.

“We do want to make sure we’re representing the interests of different groups out there, but not just the loudest groups that come in,” he said.

Scanlon said she hopes to keep the protesters’ presence known, by embodying the saying “they tried to bury us; they didn’t know we were seeds.”

“It’s the idea that the more they repress us, the more we’re just going to grow stronger,” Scanlon said. “If anything, this arrest is going to force me to share and transmit my fearlessness to other students.”

state@dailytarheel.com

FORUM

FROM PAGE 1

“Recently RHA has not had an increase to keep pace with inflation in the past 30 years roughly,” Sink said. “That’s detrimental to out-of-state students especially because residence halls are literally their home.”

Sink he plans to increase Counseling and Psychological Services resources so students can have access to private counseling on campus.

Making UNC home

“I want to help connect out-of-state students with families here in Chapel Hill so you feel like you have a place to go home to on the weekends or over breaks,” Taylor said.

He offered his house as a home to students and said he would love to welcome students into it.

Opere said student government should help out-of-state students find affordable storage for belongings between semesters. He said he wants to increase peer-to-peer training to improve mental health and

sexual assault awareness.

“If you’re an out-of-state, out-of-country student who doesn’t have parents looking out for you, you actually have your roommate,” Opere said.

Sink said he wants to build on UNC’s current programs by expanding Tar Heel Bikes and providing RHA with more resources.

Budgets and SAFO

All three candidates said getting money for student groups through the Student Activities Fund Office is a problem because groups are required to pay high fees.

All three said it is important to look into other options for banking, such as partnering with Wells Fargo. Sink said UNC should look at other schools’ models for student organizations’ banking.

“The contract for SAFO runs out in 2017,” Sink said. “It’s important to recognize that our administrations, whoever is elected, will be in charge of this process and this investigation for change.”

university@dailytarheel.com

FREE TAX PREPARATION

VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
UNC School of Law

WHEN:
February 3-March 26
Wed: 6-9pm, Thurs 6-9pm
Sat: 10-1pm

WHERE:
Van Hecke-Wettach Hall

Some regular clinics are not scheduled. Please visit
<http://studentorgs.law.unc.edu/vita/taxpayers/>
to check those dates and to make appointments.

For more information & to schedule an appointment:
studentsorg.law.unc.edu/vita

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NIH

National Institute of
Environmental Health Sciences

If you are a man or woman, 18-55 years old, living in the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area, and **smoke cigarettes or use an electronic nicotine delivery system (e-cigarette)**, please join an important study on smokers being conducted by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).



What’s Required?

- One visit to donate blood, urine, and saliva samples
- Samples will be collected at the NIEHS Clinical Research Unit in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
- Volunteers will be compensated up to \$60

Who Can Participate?

- Healthy men and women aged 18-55
- Current cigarette smokers or users of nicotine-containing e-cigarettes (can be using both)

The definition of healthy for this study means that you feel well and can perform normal activities. If you have a chronic condition, such as high blood pressure, healthy can also mean that you are being treated and the condition is under control.

For more information about this study, call 919-316-4976

Lead Researcher

Stavros Garantziotis, M.D.
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

games

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephem Group

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution to Monday’s puzzle

8	9	1	2	7	6	3	4	5
3	5	2	4	9	8	7	6	1
7	6	4	1	5	3	8	9	2
6	8	7	5	3	2	9	1	4
1	2	3	7	4	9	6	5	8
9	4	5	6	8	1	2	7	3
5	7	9	3	2	4	1	8	6
4	3	6	8	1	7	5	2	9
2	1	8	9	6	5	4	3	7

After Wainstein ...

UNC now has a senior-level position to demonstrate its commitment to integrity. See pg. 3 for story.

Keep pounding

Revive yourself from your post-game day slump with our list of Super Bowl highlights. See Medium blog.

Indigenous hip-hop

Take a new look at hip-hop with today’s lecture on indigenous hip-hop in the U.S. See online for story.

Be a ray of sunshine

Negativity got you down? Check out our tips for being more optimistic around others. See Tar Heel Life Hacks.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

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Across

1 Campaign display

7 Tuber made into poi

11 Actor Beatty

14 Give in

15 Out for the night

16 Australian bird

17 *Of-minced bulb

19 Came in first

20 Woman in a Beethoven piano title

21 Oscar night rides

22 Classic sports cars

23 Absorbed

24 *Laura Hillenbrand best-seller about a racehorse

26 Honest prez

28 Math comparison

29 Sally Ride, e.g.

35 Diarist Frank

37 Island wreath

38 Recipe direction ... and a literal hint to what you can do to the starts of the answers to starred clues

41 “Dig in!”

42 Celebrity

44 Statues, often

46 “Now you ___ ...”

49 Fist-up call

50 *Dry-climate landscape option

54 Palms-down call

58 Photo lab abbr.

59 Dubai bigwig

60 “MASH” setting

61 ___ juice; milk

Down

1 Cell alternative

2 Florida horse-breeding city

3 Doc’s order to a pharmacist

4 Early communications satellite

5 Falco of “The Sopranos”

6 TiVo button

7 Actress Shire

8 Manhattan Project creation

9 “Au ___”: “Bye, Pierre”

10 Texas or Ukraine city

11 World’s second largest island

12 Showing strong feelings

13 Kirsten of “Spider-Man”

18 The Browns, on sports tickers

24 Pop in the mail

25 Windy City commuter org.

27 ___ constrictor

29 Landon who ran against FDR

30 Opening set of TV series episodes

31 Hourly worker’s device

32 Fleet VIP

33 Put into operation

34 Scottish cap

36 Sci-fi staples

39 Diving lake bird

40 Capote nickname

43 It’s a scream

45 Picking-up-the-tab words

47 Song words before “with a little help from my friends”

48 Husk-wrapped Mexican food

50 Pay

51 Concrete-reinforcing rod

52 Shoulder muscles, briefly

53 Before, before

55 Golfer with an “army”

56 Deceptive move

57 Makes more bearable

60 Capsize, with “over”

63 Superstation initials

PESTO DADA VOW

CROAK OLDS CITE

BALDEAGLESACHE

SEPIA ANTIED

BAM FRENCHDOORS

ARISE RUDER

SEXT BECAME YEA

SNAPPINGTURTLES

IANUNDIESEARP

DIRGE EARNIE

ARMORED CARS EEN

LOANS ASTICS

ASTI ROCK GROUPS

RICALITE OASES

MEH SLID WRENS

The Daily Tar Heel

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122 years of editorial freedom

- PAIGE LADISIC**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
EDITOR@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- MARY TYLER MARCH**
MANAGING EDITOR
MANAGING.EDITOR@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- KELSEY WEEKMAN**
ONLINE MANAGING EDITOR
ONLINE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- BRADLEY SAACKS**
ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR
ENTERPRISE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- SAMANTHA SABIN**
DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS
SPECIAL.PROJECTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- DANNY NETT**
COMMUNITY MANAGER
COMMUNITY.MANAGER@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- JANE WESTER**
UNIVERSITY EDITOR
UNIVERSITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- KERRY LENGUEL**
CITY EDITOR
CITY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- HAYLEY FOWLER**
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR
STATE@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- SARAH VASSELLO**
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
ARTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- PAT JAMES**
SPORTS EDITOR
SPORTS@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- JOSÉ VALLÉ**
DESIGN & GRAPHICS EDITOR
DESIGN@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- KATIE WILLIAMS**
PHOTO EDITOR
PHOTO@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- ALISON KRUG**
COPY CHIEF
COPY@DAILYTARHEEL.COM
- GABRIELLA CIRELLI**
VIDEO EDITOR
MULTIMEDIA@DAILYTARHEEL.COM

TIPS

Contact Managing Editor
Mary Tyler March at
managing.editor@dailytarheel.com
with tips, suggestions or
corrections.

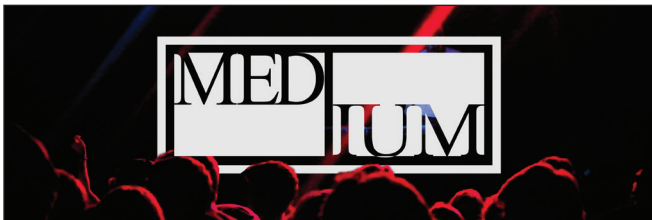
Mail and Office: 151 E. Rosemary St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Paige Ladisic, Editor-in-Chief, 962-4086
Advertising & Business, 962-1163
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245
Distribution, 962-4115

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The best of online



Playlist: The music you need to survive an 8 a.m.

By Callie Riek
Staff Writer

You did it. You said you wouldn't, and then you did. You signed up for an 8 a.m. Somehow, you need to motivate yourself to get out of bed. Luckily, we've got you covered with this good morning playlist.

There's no way you'll stay in bed after hearing these songs.

1. "Brothers in Arms" from the Mad Max score

This music is perfect for everything from waking up in the morning to riding a stolen 18-wheeler through

a post-apocalyptic desert. Either way, it's guaranteed to make getting ready ten times more exciting. Also, "Mad Max" was recently nominated for 10 (count 'em, 10) Oscars, so it's #relevant.

2. "Carolina Calling" by Mipso

Did you know all the members of Mipso went to UNC? It's true! And look at them now! This band is living proof that everybody (yes, even you) can make it through 8 a.m. classes at UNC alive.



READ THE REST:
Go to www.dailytarheel.com/blog/medium

MORE CONTENT TO SEE ONLINE:

FASHION

Staff writer Lindsey Hoover discusses the resurgence of 1990s fashion in 2016.

As you stroll through campus on a Saturday night, you'll probably notice a mass amount of chokers, "party ponies" (pictured below) and high-waisted jeans.

No, you're not time traveling back to the '90s, you're simply just experiencing the rebirth of the classic, angsty, '90s style that girls today are finessing. It started off with the emergence of crop tops and high-waisted shorts.

To read more, head to dailytarheel.com.

BINGE WATCH

Staff writer Jordan Mareno recommends binge-watching "Chopped."

"Chopped" is the golden child of the Food Network. For those of you who refuse to submit yourselves to the brain numbing exercises that are reality television, "Chopped" will serve as a more respectable, yet equally as indulging, form of time wasting.

Each episode introduces us to four competitors from various backgrounds and pits them against one another in a time-crunched battle to create beautiful presentations of food.

To read more, head to dailytarheel.com.

ONLINE POLL

The Daily Tar Heel asked respondents whether UNC does enough to promote inclusiveness. Results as of publication.

"Yes, everyone is included!"
— 65 percent

"No, more could be done."
— 35 percent

Vote at dailytarheel.com.

PODCAST

Kelsey Weekman and Alice Wilder sit down to talk with Christi Hurt, the assistant vice chancellor and chief of staff for student affairs at UNC. To listen, head to our [Having It All](#) blog.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

Career Bytes: Nailed It! Behavioral Interview Essentials: University Career Services will offer advice on answering common job interview questions and planning how to strategize for behavioral questions. This event is free and open to students.
Time: 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Location: Sitterson Hall, Room 011

WEDNESDAY

Business Careers for Non-Business Majors: University Career Services will host a panel discussion on what it's like to pursue a business-related career without a

business major. This event is free and open to students.
Time: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Location: Hanes Hall, Room 239

THURSDAY

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance can help low- to moderate-income residents with preparing their tax forms. Help can be found at multiple locations in Orange and Chatham counties. To make an appointment, head to www.orangecountync.gov/aging/vita.asp or call the Compass Center for Women and Families at 919-968-4610.
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Chapel Hill Public

Library

FRIDAY

Darwin Day: To celebrate Charles Darwin's birthday, Allen Hurlbert from the UNC biology department will discuss natural selection and how it affects diversity of life on Earth. Preregistration is required.
Time: Noon to 1 p.m.
Location: N.C. Botanical Garden

To make a calendar submission, email calendar@dailytarheel.com. Please include the date of the event in the subject line, and attach a photo if you wish. Events will be published in the newspaper on either the day or the day before they take place.

CORRECTIONS

- The Daily Tar Heel reports any inaccurate information published as soon as the error is discovered.
- Editorial corrections will be printed on this page. Errors committed on the Opinion Page have corrections printed on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories.
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inBRIEF

UNIVERSITY BRIEF

Vote for student body president, other seats

Spring general elections are today from midnight to 8 p.m. Voting takes place online at studentlife.unc.edu, and students can vote for a number of offices, including student body president, Residence Hall Association president, Student Congress representatives and senior class officers. Two referendums will also be on the ballot, including the proposed separation of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation and student government.

— staff reports

ARTS BRIEF

Flyleaf Books hosts author writing class

Chatham County author

Nancy Peacock will lead the Free Prompt Writing Class at Flyleaf Books today.

This week, the class will focus on prompts from Natalie Goldberg. The class, which is free and open to the public, starts at 10 a.m.

— staff reports

CITY BRIEF

Transportation advisory board meets Wednesday

The Chapel Hill Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board will be holding a public information meeting Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Town Hall. The meeting will discuss transit topics such as the current and future Chapel Hill Transit and GoTriangle services.

— staff reports

POLICE LOG

- Someone communicated threats on the 300 block of Estes Drive at 6:33 p.m. Sunday, according to Carrboro police reports.

- Someone reported a loud noise on the 400 block of Davie Road at 11:14 p.m. Sunday, according to Carrboro police reports.

- Someone committed

- a noise violation on the 200 block of McCauley Street at 12:01 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

- Someone possessed alcohol underage on the 200 block of McCauley Street at 12:50 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

- Someone committed a

- noise violation on the 100 block of East Longview Street at 12:19 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

- Someone committed larceny of auto parts and accessories on the 500 block of South Heritage Loop at 1 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports. The person damaged

- \$1,500 worth of property and stole \$200 worth of property. The stolen property was recovered.

- Someone committed possession of stolen property at the intersection of Westminster Drive at Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard at 1:42 a.m. Sunday, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

CAROLINA SPORTS RUNDOWN

Wednesday, February 10
#14 Wrestling vs. Navy
5:00 p.m. — Carmichael Arena

Wednesday, February 10
#14 Wrestling vs. Duke
7:00 p.m. — Carmichael Arena +3

Thursday, February 11
Women's Basketball vs. Virginia Tech
7:00 p.m. — Carmichael Arena +2

Friday, February 12
Gymnastics
NC State and William & Mary
7:00 p.m. in Carmichael Arena

Saturday, February 13
#8 Men's Lacrosse vs. Furman
1:00 p.m. Fetzer Field

Saturday, February 13
#14 Wrestling vs. #17 Pittsburgh
7:00 p.m. Carmichael Arena +3

Sunday, February 14th
#2 Men's Basketball vs. Pittsburgh
1:00 p.m. Dean E. Smith Center

Sunday February 14
#2 Women's Lacrosse vs. San Diego State
1:00 p.m. Fetzer Field

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Innocent and indicted battle US legal system



DTH/AUDREY LI

Fernando Bermudez talks about the U.S. trial process and his experience in jail in the Genome Science Building on Feb. 8.

UNC tackles wrongful convictions in lecture series

By Anica Midthun
Staff Writer

The United States has a record of wrongful convictions — leading a UNC political science professor to organize a semester-long series of seminars to tackle the issue.

Professor Frank Baumgartner invited Fernando Bermudez and LaMonte Armstrong — each of whom was wrongfully sentenced to life in prison for a murder he didn’t commit — to speak on UNC’s campus in a seminar called “Race, Innocence and the End of the Death Penalty” on Monday night.

The event, which had around 200 in attendance, gave Bermudez and Armstrong the opportunity to share their stories, including their fights to appeal guilty charges and prove their innocence.

“I was suddenly faced with the cling and the clang of human cargo in the modern time,” he said.

Baumgartner said he wanted to draw attention to the loss of identity and importance prisoners feel when facing a wrongful conviction, and the inability

to voice their innocence once interred.

Theresa Newman, Duke law professor and faculty adviser of the Duke Law Innocence Project, an organization combating wrongful convictions, helped overturn Armstrong’s sentence. She said the DLIP aims to erase the idea the sentence delivered has to be the end of the case.

“We want to examine the way that the cloak of innocence disappears once a person is convicted,” she said. “It is better that 10 guilty persons go free than one innocent person suffer.”

There have been an estimated 2,000 innocent people wrongfully incarcerated in the past 25 years, Bermudez said.

He spent 18 years behind bars after being wrongly identified by multiple witnesses in what he called an illegal interrogation procedure.

“I just believed that if I told the truth I would go free,” he said.

He appealed his conviction 10 times before he was released, after writing to representatives, reading up on the legal system and turning down a plea bargain.

“I didn’t want to make a deal with the devil,” he said, though many

encouraged him to take it.

He eventually received a record-breaking settlement from the state of New York and is working to create the Fernando Bermudez Innocence Scholarship, which will give thousands of dollars in scholarships to students who promise to work to help the wrongfully convicted.

It took Armstrong five years to stop believing he would be found innocent.

“I thought that the system doesn’t have time to play with people’s lives and put innocent people in prison,” he said.

UNC junior Jessica Loverde said she didn’t know the extent of wrongful convictions’ prevalence in the U.S.

“I attended the seminar to learn something new and learned about a problem that is happening all over,” she said.

Bermudez and Armstrong give talks to audiences to educate people on the prevalence and danger of wrongful conviction.

“My story is not just my story, it’s the story of the innocent and what we suffer to get our story out there,” Bermudez said.

state@dailytarheel.com

ACADEMIC-ATHLETIC SCANDAL

Ethics working group makes its recommendations

Chancellor Carol Folt asked for the report after Wainstein.

By Katie Reeder
Senior Writer

A new senior-level position now exists as a demonstration of the University’s commitment to integrity.

Todd Nicolet became the Interim Chief Integrity and Policy Officer on Monday. He said the Chancellor hopes to have a permanent officer by June 1.

The position came from a joint recommendation by the Ethics and Integrity Working Group and the Policy and Procedures Working Group, both of which were commissioned by Chancellor Carol Folt after the release of the Wainstein report in fall 2014. Folt announced the release of the ethics and integrity group’s final report in an email Thursday.

Nicolet, who chaired the policy and procedures group, said the position brought together the ethics and integrity group’s focus on culture, and the policy and procedures group’s focus on structures to support that culture. He stressed the importance of emphasizing ethics, while also giving the campus community the resources to carry out those values.

School of Government professor Norma Houston served as co-chairperson of the ethics and integrity group. She said the group recognized that its work was about restoring the University’s reputation, a task critical to its future.

“The challenges that the campus has faced over the last couple of years, while significant, were brought about by the grossly inappropriate conduct of a very small handful of individuals. And their conduct is not, in our opinion, representative of the integrity of faculty, staff and students as a whole,” Houston said.

She said one of report’s biggest takeaways is that the

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Ethics and Integrity Working Group wants UNC to consider:

- Adopting a unified ethics statement
- Hiring a chief integrity and policy officer
- Creating a web portal to house reporting mechanisms
- Addressing influences that affect the campus’ culture of integrity

group found no significant gaps in the University’s resources, trainings or reporting mechanisms. Because of this, the committee wants to focus on awareness.

The University has 20 different mechanisms for reporting possible ethical violations. The number of channels has to do with the laws’ structures, Houston said. Where a report for a complaint is filed depends on the kind of complaint.

“You want to have redundancy,” she said. “But you don’t want to have redundancy to the point of confusion.”

To strike a balance among the various reporting channels, the working group recommended creating a web portal that could streamline the complaint filing process.

“The site is intended to be a useful tool, and a prominent reminder of the value Carolina places on upholding our campus culture of ethics and integrity,” said University spokesperson Sarah Derreberry in an email.

Houston also highlighted the importance of the group’s recommendation that the UNC adopt a statement on ethics. Although various groups throughout campus have a statement, the University does not have a single statement.

“... It gives — us a framework for communicating what our core values are with regard to ethics and integrity,” Houston said.

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School of Education dean candidate schools crowd

The Iowa candidate’s public visit was first in a series of three.

By Anna Freeman
Staff Writer

Christopher Morphew, one of three candidates to become the School of Education’s new dean, expressed his ideas to expand the academic potential of the school on Monday.

Morphew, executive associate dean for research and innovation for the College of Education at the University of Iowa, let his humor shine in a presentation that outlined his views on schools of education and the role he’d play at UNC.

He said preparing researchers could be the future for UNC’s School of Education instead of focusing solely on preparing K-12 teachers.

“We need to know how people learn and continue to learn on both ends of the

tail,” he said.

Gary Marchionini, dean of the School of Information and Library Science and chairperson of the search committee, said the committee looked over scores of applications and narrowed it down to three candidates who are extraordinary leaders.

“It’s based on their reputation, their accomplishments, their vision, and we see him as one of the people who can make a difference at Carolina,” Marchionini said.

Morphew said the declining enrollment at the School of Education means leaders need to rethink how UNC offers curricula across multiple disciplines.

“I think the future of schools of educations is on the margins,” he said.

Morphew said in his 14 hours on campus, he noticed some improvements could be made to UNC’s School of Education. He suggested that a ratio of more than 50 facul-

ty for more than 600 students could be made more fiscally sustainable by spending less money on faculty resources.

Morphew wants to create connections with other academic departments across campus to find great potential partners.

He said he had long been impressed by the pride the state of North Carolina took in its higher education but found those attitudes had shifted in recent times.

His role as dean, he said, would be to share stories with legislators and donors to raise money, and he wasn’t afraid to go “hat-in-hand if that’s what it took.”

Lora Cohen-Vogel, a professor in the School of Education, said it strikes her that schools of education are in the space where enrollments are declining. But if she had the funding, she said she could admit three times the number of graduate students currently enrolled.

Marchionini said the



DTH/SAMANTHA DIKOLLI

Christopher Morphew, a candidate for the deanship of the School of Education, speaks at a forum.

campus visits will end in two weeks, and he hopes the new dean will take office in July, although that is ultimately the provost’s decision.

Morphew said he’s drawn

to UNC because of its possibilities to expand.

“(UNC) presents enormous opportunities for academics and for leaders, so one of the things that’s attractive to me is

this is already a highly formed school of ed, but it’s surrounded by world-class potential partners,” Morphew said.

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DPS seizes two guns, ammunition from man on campus in January

Guns are generally banned on North Carolina campuses.

By Dylan Tastet
Staff Writer

Joshua Wilkie, from Apex, was arrested on Jan. 21 by Department of Public Safety officers for possession of a weapon on educational property.

DPS spokesperson Randy Young said Wilkie was initially stopped for a motor vehicle violation, and as the officer approached the car, he spotted ammunition in the cabin of the car. The officer then asked Wilkie if he had

a gun in the car, and Wilkie said he did, Young said.

According to the incident report, officers then confiscated one Ruger .22 caliber carbine, one 12-gauge shotgun and eight rounds of ammunition.

Wilkie did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

According to North Carolina state law, it is a felony “to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind on educational property or to a curricular or extracurricular activity sponsored by a school.”

The law states a person can be exempt from this if they have a concealed carry

permit and their weapon is in a locked container inside of a locked vehicle.

“I believe that that is just for handguns, the concealed carry, so that would be in violation either way is my understanding,” Young said.

Young said the only time a person can legally have a gun on campus is during a life or death emergency.

A district court judge in Hillsborough set a \$1,000 bond for Wilkie, who is awaiting trial.

Sam Arbes, president of Tar Heel Rifle and Pistol Club, said students who join the club are required to go through a safety orientation.

“I don’t think I’ve ever come across anyone who

thought they could bring a gun on campus,” Arbes said. “But we do reiterate the fact that it is illegal, and you need to follow the law.”

The issue of whether or not to allow firearms on college campuses is a debated topic, but Arbes said Tar Heel Rifle and Pistol Club does not advocate one side or the other.

“We don’t really deal in politics. We’re just here mainly to educate people and show them what responsible gun ownership is about,” he said.

Wilkie lives in Chatham County, just outside of Apex city limits, where it is legal to have firearms.

Arbes said Wilkie should have been aware of the

laws forbidding firearms on educational property.

“Anybody that cares and anybody that’s serious about taking part in gun ownership will learn the laws and know where they can and cannot safely possess a firearm,” he said.

“So it’s like common sense to know that federal property, state property, educational buildings, any places like that — you just don’t come there with more or less a loaded firearm.”

It will be legal to possess a firearm on campus starting Aug. 1 at Texas Tech University, said Texas Tech law professor Arnold Loewy.

He said in most states, hav-

ing a firearm on educational

property is not permissible. “In terms of how safe it is to have campus carry, that’s debatable. Certainly there’s a view out there — if all the good guys have guns, you’ll be able to protect against the bad guys,” he said.

Loewy said the presence of weapons in an educational environment concerns him due to the potential for students to become angry.

“It’s really my job to make people angry, and that’s what law professors do,” he said.

“I do think you save something by not arming people that might get angry and do something that they might later regret.”

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Gerhardts: 2 lawfully wedded scholars

Michael and Deborah Gerhardt love working together.

By Maria Mullis
Staff Writer

Most married couples don't get the opportunity to work closely with each other, unless they are Jim and Pam from "The Office." Michael and Deborah Gerhardt are an exception.

They are both professors at the UNC School of Law and are married with three sons — Ben, Daniel and Noah.

Deborah teaches courses on intellectual property law, and Michael teaches constitutional law.

Michael and Deborah met in Cleveland after a mutual acquaintance set them up — but Deborah said her grandmother already knew about Michael from a newspaper article she read and wanted them to meet.

Michael didn't just win over Deborah's grandmother. He earned the approval of her dog, who disliked many people but loved him.

Deborah's grandmother died shortly after the two started dating. She said Michael coming into her life was almost like it was meant

to be. "He came into my life just as she was dying," she said.

The couple met in December 1996 and Michael proposed the following March 7, Deborah's birthday, in New York. They married in August of 1997.

Deborah said the process was rather fast, but purposefully so, in order to accommodate her grandmother. She died before the wedding but was still able to see her granddaughter's wedding dress and other preparations.

The couple was hired at UNC in 2005 at the same time. They even started work on the same day.

"No matter what happens at work, I know I always have someone to support me," Deborah said. "I always have a lunch date."

Michael said one of the nicest parts of working so closely to his wife is the extra time they get to spend together.

"There is no worst part," he said.

This year, the couple share a parking permit, which they said can get a bit hectic; they try to schedule their classes around the same time to make things easier.

During class, the two have



COURTESY OF DEBORAH GERHARDT
Michael and Deborah Gerhardt are married and work together at the UNC School of Law. They traveled to Israel together in December 2015.

an abundance of family anecdotes to tell.

Deborah said she likes to relate diaper brands to trademark issues. Michael uses his sons and their differing personalities as a way to relate to equality.

When they are not working, the Gerhardts are usually at an art show, play

or musical performance, since Deborah receives free tickets to every PlayMakers show. The couple also shares a love of local Chapel Hill band, Mipso.

Michael considers himself more of a sports fan and will usually take his sons to UNC games — especially basketball.

"We are both strongly committed Tar Heels," he said.

Carolyn Detmer is a third-year law student at UNC who has had both Michael and Deborah as professors.

"I think they complement each other well," she said.

Detmer said although they are different, they are well-respected in the law

school, both for their shared last name and respective accomplishments.

"Most of the comments I hear are positive, both them separately and together," she said.

"I think people are really glad we have them."

@MariaMullis2017
arts@dailytarheel.com

Orange County officials discuss future town plans

Board members are striving for social justice in 2016.

By Lindsey Hoover
Staff Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners recently held a retreat in order to clarify and finesse their goals and priorities for the year.

Board member Barry Jacobs said he wanted to clarify the board's aims for the coming year, as well as come up with specific objectives.

"I personally brought up things that I felt we needed to pay more attention to, like agriculture and open space," he said.

Jacobs also discussed goals pertaining to education and the living wages within Orange County.

"A more aggressive social agenda was discussed for employee living wages, especially employees that live in the area due to job restrictions," Jacobs said. "We also talked about issues like families that can't afford pre-K or community college in the context of our budget."

Both Jacobs and fellow board member Penny Rich said keeping up and implementing these goals both depend heavily on the year's budget.

"We're working on a lot of goals and trying to incorporate them into the budget," Jacobs said. "Not everything is affordable, and we have to balance what you can and can't afford."

Rich said the Orange County Board of Commissioners is looking to revamp how they form the yearly budget.

"The main thing that needs

to happen is that we need to discuss our priorities then work our budget around what we think needs to happen first," she said.

According to Rich, social justice is a theme that has continued on into this year.

"I think even though it is a general theme, we need to be more aggressive about it and work to connect all of our goals to this issue," Rich said.

The efforts being made to improve the community and to establish goals for the coming year don't stop with the Orange County Board of

Commissioners.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Maria Palmer said she hopes to see projects that had been previously approved come to life in the coming year.

"From our old goals and ongoing work, (my number one goal is to) see the road enhancements implemented and development projects we have approved built," she said. "I'm hoping we can bring an infusion of investment and jobs to Chapel Hill."

Palmer is working to have her goals accomplished within the next two years

before she seeks re-election — she has begun efforts to reach her goals by recruiting businesses and working with the school board.

"New goals of mine are focused on working with the school board to get excellent career and technical programs that lead to really good job offerings to all our students and residents," Palmer said. "We're recruiting businesses to improve the quality of life here and working with the school board to dream big."

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HOROSCOPES

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Together, you're unstoppable this year. A money gush (after 3/8) opens new avenues (after 9/16). Embark upon a two-year educational journey (after 9/9). New income, insurance benefits or an inheritance (after 9/1) sparks a financial turning point. Save for your family's future.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Today is a 5 -- Private productivity suits your mood today and tomorrow. Settle into your nest. Savor peace and quiet. Be thoughtful and sensitive. Clarify your direction. Review plans and budgets. Dreams could seem intense. Scribble in your journal.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
Today is an 8 -- Friends are especially helpful over the next two days. Talk about future goals. Be patient with a silly request. A crazy scheme could work. Check public opinion before launching. Make an outrageous request.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
Today is a 9 -- Work takes priority today and tomorrow. Assume more responsibility. Expect a test. Don't overspend. Advancement may require bold action against high odds. Imagine the result achieved, and then look to see how you got there.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
Today is an 8 -- Your wanderlust is getting worse today and tomorrow. Travel and studies quell your jones for exploration. Pursue a dream. Look outside the box. Close the books on an old deal. Chart your long-term course.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Today is an 8 -- Handle financial matters with your partner today and tomorrow. A lack of funds would threaten your plans. Take inventory of your valuable talents, and put them down on paper. List dreams and desires, too.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today is an 8 -- Work together to go further today and tomorrow. Prioritize common goals and delegate tasks. Family matters vie with work for your attention. Consult a good strategist. Improve your process and increase your yield.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Today is an 8 -- Begin a busy few days. Take advantage of a rise in demand. Write down the wildest fantasies. Don't believe everything you hear. Fulfill your promises. The rules seem to change mid-game. Adapt gracefully.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today is a 7 -- Relax and play over the next two days. Enjoy the game, without expensive gambles. Diversions include art, beauty and romance. Practice what you love. Get out in nature and move. Take the roundabout route.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today is a 7 -- Focus on domestic changes over the next few days. Choose what you want, after researching options. Get into interior decoration. Play with color. Create an inviting place for family to come together. Provide home-cooked treats.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today is an 8 -- Concentration comes easier today and tomorrow. Study, research and write your discoveries. Revise the budget to suit on-the-ground realities. Collect what's due, pay bills and settle accounts. Talk things over. Communication provides simple resolution.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Today is a 9 -- There's money coming in today and tomorrow, and you're on a mission. Tap an available source of revenue. It could get quite profitable. Stick to your budget. Write down your dreams, including implausible ones.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Today is a 9 -- Personal matters demand attention today and tomorrow. Gain strength and options. Keep your faith and sensitivity. Ditch the cynicism. Take charge for desired changes. Consider consequences, and don't let them stop you. Assertiveness works.

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Alice Wilder
Friends, Waffles, Work

Junior women's and gender studies major from Baton Rouge, La.
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Why women don't run for SBP

On Tuesday, The Daily Tar Heel published an editorial questioning why few women are running for the position of student body president. As I read it on my way to class, I remembered that for one day during my first year, I considered running for SBP. I feel embarrassed to even admit that.

I was a first year, eating Cosmic Cantina with Zach Bijesse, campaign manager for Emilio Vicente's run. He wanted to meet so he could share what he'd learned; he was using phrases like "when you run." I thought for a moment, what if I did?

I didn't consider it for more than a day. I thought about what people would say about me, a women's and gender studies major, running for the chance to represent UNC's student body. Could I still be political and appeal to wide swaths of UNC's campus? Was student government even the most effective way to get things done on campus?

I want to question why I feel embarrassed to admit that, for one day during my first year, I thought I might one day be worthy to possibly hold the position of student body president? It feels like bragging, arrogance, to admit that I even thought about it for a moment.

For me, this comes down to the feeling that above all, women are supposed to be humble; we're supposed to be sources of support. I'm not the only one who has thought this way.

And obviously, as a white woman, I've faced fewer barriers to accessing institutional power than others, but even still, these challenges are intimidating.

In putting together this column, I spoke to many of my friends who are involved in campus life about why they chose not to run. Several mentioned that they would feel more comfortable in a role like campaign manager. Others said that they never thought about it, but I want to point out that never even considering a run is in fact a choice.

One prevailing notion was that if you're not a Morehead-Cain or Robertson scholar, if you're not already involved with student government, then there's no way you'd stand a chance. Whether or not this is actually true, it's undeniable that student government does not mirror the diversity of our campus, though individual members of student government work to recruit historically underrepresented students.

Honestly, if a non-male friend of mine came to me and asked, "Would it be worth it to run for SBP?" I'm not sure I would tell them yes. Because the scrutiny is intense. And because it's fair to argue that working with student government is not the best or only way to go about making meaningful change on our campus. Because they'd likely be forced to tone down their political beliefs.

And yet, I really want to see a change in who occupies major roles on our campus. Current student body president candidates may promise to have diversity in their cabinets, and I believe that they have good intentions. But it's not enough.

It's Nothing Personal
Chiraayu Gosrani writes about the meaning of "woke."

ENDORSEMENT

When the editorial board sat down with the three remaining candidates for UNC's student body president, we were looking for something different. While we appreciate the good-faith efforts of past student body presidents to quietly advocate for student interests, we were looking for a candidate who would take principled stands, who would look to broaden participation in student politics and who had an expansive vision of what student government can be. Last year's historic low of voter participation in the SBP election indicates UNC's student body wants something different as well. This thinking led to our endorsement, and we hope it guides the vision of the eventual victor.

Vote Bradley Opere for SBP

Bradley Opere is the best candidate to facilitate positive changes that will hopefully inspire students to become more involved in campus and state politics.

Over the past few years we have seen the winners of student body president providing analytical and technocratic approaches to the office, and while this has some advantages, it is high time for a change of perspective in the office.

Opere has focused his energy and attention on the issues that we believe are the most critical for the university

— activism, communication and inclusion. In his campaign, which has been fueled by inspirational rhetoric and substantive ideas, we see a real potential for him to foster a more engaged presidency.

However, this endorsement comes with reservations; Opere has not clearly demonstrated the skill and commitment to follow through and push for substantive change. We admit that he has not yet provided evidence that he will be effective at thoroughly researching and advocating tirelessly for crucial student causes; his track record in student government has not convinced us that he effectively translated ideas into substantive action in his leadership role on executive branch this year. In an office where fresh ideas and diverse perspectives are des-

perately needed but where any idea's action depends on tireless commitment to follow-through, we worry that his progressive ideas might never see implementation.

Nonetheless, his leadership style is dynamic, and he undoubtedly has a deep understanding of the current political needs of the student body. He has demonstrated that he will listen to and include voices from across campus and has openly voiced his commitment to act as an advocate and activist in his capacity as student body president. Among the field of candidates, Opere is the most vocal about the need for change in the very role of the president.

Opere's bold ideas and his commitment to diversity, activism and communication have won him our endorsement.

John Taylor lacks the resume of an SBP

John Taylor lacks the specific knowledge and experience to be student body president. While it was refreshing to see his desire to not run on an overly technocratic platform, ultimately the person leading the student body needs more basic knowledge of how student government works than Taylor has demonstrated. He has left too many specifics unaccounted for in his plans despite his generally admirable goals.

He proudly affirms his desire to be a potential bridge builder on campus and a person to unite the student body, but we do not think with his leadership background he will be able to achieve them, and we think the groups he speaks of building bridges between are fully capable of speaking, leading and communicating between themselves.

We are also discomfited by his apparent discomfort with the philosophy of feminism despite his eventual affirmation of his belief in gender equality. This isn't good enough to lead a student body made up of almost 60 percent women.

We understand no one is fully prepared for what is required of them as SBP, but Taylor is lacking in formal leadership experience at UNC. We believe his intentions are good and that future candidates can learn from his straightforward approach, but on a personal level it seems he lacks a nuanced understanding of campus issues.

Wilson Sink represents the status quo

Wilson Sink has a strong, thorough platform. He has shown an in-depth knowledge of campus, town and state issues and has provided actionable steps to advocate for students. But we ultimately feel he would be a continuation of the status quo within student government.

In many regards, Sink has the same background as previous presidents, providing an analytical and technical understanding of student issues. This outlook has been ultimately ineffective in organizing students to fight for their interests.

Secondly, his sudden change in position on the issue of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation and separation is also worrisome to this board. His refusal to advocate for the position he holds suggests he will subordinate his beliefs to his immediate political interests.

This is not to say his platform did not have new, refreshing plans. Sink says he wants to mobilize students to vote out the elected officials slowly leaching our university's resources — an idea this board also advocates. But we believe Sink is not the person to inspire students to bring about these changes.

This board hopes to see Sink continue to advocate for the causes he is passionate about in the coming year, but we do not believe he will be able to deliver a necessary change in vision to student government.

ENDORSEMENT

Better together: for now

Students need more information before separation.

The issues around the proposed amendment to the student government constitution voters will consider today are not simple. No matter what result is reached, the way student government operates will change.

Representatives of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation are attempting to create separate, independent student governments: one for undergraduate students, another for graduate and professional students. This editorial board fundamentally agrees with the right of self-determination behind this proposed amendment.

Nonetheless, because separation will have far-reaching and uncertain consequences that could weaken the representation of all students in University policymaking, we ask students to vote for the Better Together proposal.

For years, graduate and

professional student leaders have had to endure petty behavior from members of Student Congress. They have seen their student fees disproportionately allocated to groups and services for undergraduates. Meanwhile, because the student body president has traditionally been an undergraduate student, they have not enjoyed direct representation on the Board of Trustees.

All the while, graduate students have interests distinct from undergraduates.

From this perspective, separation makes sense.

But there are potentially significant pitfalls. Separation creates the possibility of a rotating seat on the Board of Trustees where the traditional student body president would sit on the board one year and the Graduate and Professional Student Government president the next. This rotating seat would weaken continuity in the position and hamper accountability for the representative of students on the board. Also, the amount of funding available for both

graduate and undergraduate student groups could fall by a significant amount.

With the Better Together proposal, demands made by the GPSF are met and potentially harmful consequences are put off. Graduate and professional students would have a chance to see if the restructuring of student government resulting from the Better Together proposal satisfies their original concerns. Separation could be pursued again in the future if the reforms fail.

Finally, the intricacies and potential results of separation are not sufficiently clear to most students. Even the most informed students on this campus don't know exactly how separation would play out. Graduate and professional students might respond that they have endured too much pettiness already for this to be a reasonable request. We empathize with these voices, but finally, too much is at stake for the mass of students to rush into a decision that would have unknown and far-reaching consequences.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No matter what happens at work, I know I always have someone to support me. I always have a lunch date."

Deborah Gerhardt, on working with her husband, Michael

FEATURED ONLINE READER COMMENT

"Let's not dumb kids down to the lowest denominator. Exceptionalism and good work should be rewarded."

srsbusiness, on whether or not gifted programs are segregating schools

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Separation could lead to less representation

TO THE EDITOR:

Student representation on the Board of Trustees is of the utmost importance, especially in the current political climate. Consequently, I see the future of student representation on the Board of Trustees as the number one issue at stake in today's referendum.

I want to address graduate students directly. I admit that I could never fully understand, never mind advocate for, all of your concerns. I admit that the historical disregard for your concerns is problematic and should have been taken more seriously long before today. I even admit that the separation plan is ambitious, well-intentioned and could solve a number of problems.

And yet I must still urge you to vote to keep our Student Government united. If the separation amendment passes, you will be left with no representation on the Board of Trustees, and no codified speaking rights, for the foreseeable future. Relying on the Board of Governors to add another student member to the Board of Trustees is a precarious gamble. A proposed alternative is rotating the seat between an undergraduate SBP and a graduate SBP. I am convinced that this would be a terrible outcome for all students — in any given year, up to 63 percent of our student body would be without any representation. Do not throw away 110 years of united student self-governance without a guarantee that your voice would still be heard where it matters. Look before you leap.

Houston Summers
Student Body President

We need more info before separation

TO THE EDITOR:

I have made it clear where I stand on the possible separation of Graduate and Professional Students Federation and Student Government. Student Congress has put forth a sensible compromise in its co-optation plan. But one thing continues to bother me. The leaders of GPSF have not put forward a policy plan for what they will do if the separation referendum is approved.

We are in the midst of the SBP race and a U.S. presidential election cycle. While John Taylor and Hillary Clinton may not have a lot in common, they do share one thing. They have both created platforms. They have indicated the policy changes they intend to pursue if voters favor them. GPSF should do the same.

I am a graduate student. If I am asked to

vote for separation, I want to see a detailed plan for moving forward. How will GPSF be different under the separation constitution? What radical reforms are in store for future graduate and professional students? How can the current leaders of GPSF be sure that future leaders will have the same vision they do? And if the structure is to remain the same, why separate at all? Aesop's admonishment to "look before you leap" is now some 2,500 years old, but it is still relevant today. If I were to vote for separation, can I be sure that GPSF will still be relevant tomorrow?

John Anagnost
Graduate Student
City and Regional
Planning

Burr not debating is in line with his record

TO THE EDITOR:

As one of Richard Burr's opponents in the March 15 Republican U.S. Senate primary, I consider his refusal to debate me because I don't have enough "money" or "credibility" shameful and cowardly. It clearly shows his arrogance and contempt for me, you and all the people of North Carolina.

The truth is — he won't debate because his pathetic record of ignoring his constituents, voting against their wishes and failing to fight for conservative principles is indefensible, and he would look foolish to even try.

Larry Holmquist
Candidate for U.S.
Senate

Are later hours at Wilson wanted?

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for your editorial about hours of service at Wilson Library. Few things are more satisfying than hearing that UNC's library buildings, collections and librarians and archivists make a difference to students at Carolina.

We periodically review the schedule of all UNC libraries and do our best to match hours with need, within the budget available. Your editorial is prompting us to launch a new study of Wilson Library hours and to see if we ought to try to extend or at least rebalance them.

I invite Carolina students to share their advice with us at wilsonlibrary@unc.edu. Have you ever wanted to use Wilson at a time when it was not open? If hours could be changed, what would be the most useful to you?

We also hope that we will see both familiar and new faces during exam week, when Wilson Library will once again offer extended hours for quiet study.

Sarah C. Michalak
University Librarian
and Associate Provost for
University Libraries

SPEAK OUT

WRITING GUIDELINES

- Please type. Handwritten letters will not be accepted.
- Sign and date. No more than two people should sign letters.
- Students: Include your year, major and phone number.
- Faculty/staff: Include your department and phone number.
- Edit: The DTH edits for space, clarity, accuracy and vulgarity. Limit letters to 250 words.

SUBMISSION

- Drop off or mail to our office at 151 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514
- Email: opinion@dailytarheel.com

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