

# For Mills, allocating budget to be priority

Changes to Code to fall on others

**BY AARON MOORE**  
STAFF WRITER

Alex Mills' promotion came at a momentous time for Student Congress. And it was momentous in itself.

By stepping in for Deanna Santoro as speaker, Mills became the first graduate student in recent memory to serve in the role.

And with budget decisions and proposals to amend the Student Code lying on the horizon, his one-month term will be as influential as it is brief.



DTH/BEN BERRY

Alex Mills, the new speaker for Student Congress, is the first graduate student in recent memory to fill the role. He will serve until April.

While he believes the Code needs changing, Mills said he will leave that responsibility to other Congress members and focus on allocating student fees to different student groups. He said his main obstacle is that student groups are requesting three times more funding than is available, and some of them won't see any money at all until next fall.

On Thursday and Saturday, Mills and the finance committee heard from 75 different student groups requesting some portion of money from student fees. Since Congress can only allocate about 35 percent of the budget during spring semester, many of those groups will have to come back to request funding again in the fall.

Despite the limited spring allocations, a mix of graduate and undergraduate groups have requested funding from the finance committee.

Mills said his position as a graduate student will not influence how the budget hearings play out.

"I don't think it's really going to affect things at all," he said. "The two groups have worked really well together, and we do a better job when

we have a diversity of viewpoints."

Santoro added that because the speaker is a non-voting member on all committees, Mills won't have much input as to where the finance committee allocates funds.

"The speaker is sort of an administrative role," Santoro said. "Alex has been in Congress a long time. He knows what he's doing, he's doing a great job."

Contact the University Editor at [university@dailytarheel.com](mailto:university@dailytarheel.com).

## National and World News



Know more on today's top story:

► A few months ago, Gadhafi called the Security Council the "Terror Council" before the UN members <http://on.ft.com/dS2cce> (via The Financial Times)

► Obama comes under pressure to support Libya's rebel government <http://bit.ly/gmbImj> (via The Telegraph)

► With the tensions in Libya increasing, the White House says it is considering all options to respond to the turmoil <http://n.pr/eruj9r> (via NPR)

Go to [dailytarheel.com/index.php/section/state](http://dailytarheel.com/index.php/section/state) to discuss the actions against Libya's government.

### United Nations Security Council enforces sanctions against Gadhafi

BENGHAZI, Libya (MCT) — Moammar Gadhafi found himself on Saturday even more isolated in his last major stronghold of Tripoli, as a former top aide declared he was forming a national opposition government and President Barack Obama said the Libyan dictator should leave "now."

The United Nations Security Council, meanwhile, unanimously approved sanctions aimed at forcing Gadhafi to halt brutal onslaughts that he has unleashed in a bid to crush an 11-day-old insurrection that has left all of eastern Libya and other parts of the country under rebel control, and has left hundreds, if not thousands, dead.

The Security Council, after a day of discussions behind closed doors and consultations with

home capitals, agreed to freeze the assets of Gadhafi, his four sons and one daughter, and to ban travel by the whole family plus 10 close associates. Possible war crimes charges would be referred to the International Criminal Court.

Obama, in a telephone call with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, "stated that when a leader's only means of staying in power is to use mass violence against his own people, he has lost the legitimacy to rule and needs to do what is right for his country by leaving now," the White House said in an official readout of the call between the leaders.

Obama also has frozen the U.S. assets of Gadhafi, his family and top officials and shuttered the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli.

### Budget cuts cause protests nationwide

WASHINGTON, D.C. (MCT) — Proposed federal and state budget cuts and the looming specter of a U.S. government shutdown have put elected officials from coast to coast under some intense public scrutiny.

After state workers took over the Wisconsin statehouse to protest a host of spending reductions and job-related concessions, smaller demonstrations erupted in Ohio and Indiana over similar proposals.

In Iowa last week, 500 union backers and 150 tea party supporters held dueling statehouse protests over collective bargain-

ing rights for public employees.

Even members of Congress and their staffs were warned this week of possible demonstrations at their district offices.

Across the country, cash-strapped states and local governments are cutting jobs, services and benefits because of budget shortfalls caused by declining tax revenue.

Since August 2008, state and local governments have trimmed 426,000 jobs, about 253,000 in the past year alone. The depth of the cuts has hit families hard, and their frustration is boiling over and is sparking a growing public backlash.

### Suicide bomber kills 3 civilians

KABUL (MCT) — A suicide bomber detonated Saturday in a crowd in northern Afghanistan gathered for a traditional sporting event, killing three and injuring 40.

Saturday's attack was another in a series across the country in which civilians were targeted, as Afghan forces prepare to take over security responsibilities from U.S.-led international forces.

In a separate incident Saturday, nine civilians were killed in the southeast province of Khost, which borders Pakistan.



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BASEBALL v. Charlotte 3p

**WEDNESDAY, MAR. 2**  
BASEBALL v. Davidson 3p  
SOFTBALL v. Charlotte 3p & 5p

**THURSDAY, MAR. 3**  
WOMEN'S TENNIS v. UNC-G 12p & Memphis 7p

**FRIDAY, MAR. 4**  
BASEBALL v. Stony Brook 3p

**SATURDAY, MAR. 5**  
MEN'S LACROSSE v. UMBC 12p  
BASEBALL v. Stony Brook 2p  
GYMNASTICS v. William & Mary 2p  
MEN'S BASKETBALL v. Duke 8p

**SUNDAY, MAR. 6**  
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**SANFORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY, ROOM 04**

**March 1, 2011**  
**5:00 - 6:30 PM**

**Reception to follow in Fleishman Commons**

This event is sponsored by Duke Islamic Studies Center, Center for Jewish Studies, Duke University Middle East Studies Center, The Center for Muslim Life, Sanford School of Public Policy, Emmanuel J. and Sara N. Evans Foundation, Duke University Center for International Studies