

University officials to test preparedness

Continued from page 1A

The tabletop exercise was conducted by EnviroSafe, a consultant from Graham, N.C., who will also conduct the full-scale exercise on March 11. EnviroSafe provides specialized services and solutions to assist in preparing for emergency responses in the case of a disaster.

EnviroSafe's President and CEO Kevin Dull led the exercise.

"You never know what's going to happen, but if you're better prepared, the outcome will be better," Dull said.

During the exercise, all issues were checked off and evaluated. One

priority was crisis communication to alert the students and campus community.

As the tabletop concluded, Vice Chancellor for University and Community Relations Dr. Glen Burnette thanked the participants.

"I am glad we had the opportunity to connect with external emergency personnel," Dr. Burnette said. "It's been a great learning experience for our campus community because it provides us the opportunity to test and hone our emergency operations plans."

When asked his thoughts, Campus Police Chief McDuffie Cummings said the table-

top was "an excellent training opportunity for Campus Police and other organizations.

"This gives us a chance to test our organization's alert systems, including text message alerts, sirens and marquees," Chief Cummings said. "It is important how we get the word out and react to the real life scenario. This can happen; we hope it doesn't. This type of exercise gives us a leg up on the training needed to deal with these types of incidents."

For more information, contact the Division for Community and University Relations at (910) 521-6249 or relations@uncc.edu.



Campus, county and state emergency personnel confer during Feb. 17 Train Derailment Tabletop Exercise. Photo courtesy of University Relations

Tuition hike begins next Fall 2010

Continued from Page 1A

The BOG proposed increasing the Need-Based Financial Aid program from \$3,700 to \$3,800.

Competing plans

The document points out the 2009 General Assembly set tuition for UNC campuses for 2010-11 by increasing all existing rates by the lesser of \$200 or 8 percent and that revenue would be deposited into the state's general fund.

However, UNC General Administration instructed the campuses to follow the campus-based initiatives established previously by BOG.

Those are the numbers reported above.

Under the Legislative Plan, it is estimated that UNCP's total tuition revenues would be \$782,961. Under the BOG Plan, they would be \$754,388, a difference of \$28,573.

However, under the Legislative Plan all the revenue would not necessarily come to the campus.

It may not be known until the legislature passes the 2010-11 budget closer to July which plan will be adopted.

According to SGA President Arjay Quizon, the campuses' student government association presidents are circulating petitions asking for the campus-initiated increases rather than the legislative plan increases.

General

Administration also has asked all campuses to submit a 5 percent budget reduction plan by Feb. 22.

Budget reduction

Campuses need to find ways to save on expenses. One way might be to increase class sizes rather than hire more faculty to serve increased enrollments.

"The tuition is the main problem, said Freshman Joshua Strickland. "I really could care less about larger classes."

Freshman Justin Hammonds said, "I have no problem with larger classes, but when I have to take extra money out of my pocket then I have a problem."

Student Life preps for big changes

By Dustin Porter
Electronic News Editor

Student Life plans to change their name, hire a new assistant director, and create a large office that they will share with The Association of Campus Entertainment (ACE).

Some students on campus have already taken notice of the banners and signs on the second floor of the University Center indicating that Student Life has moved offices.

But they may not know about the other changes that Student Life will be experiencing during the next couple of months, according to the Director of Student Life Michael Severy.

To start, Student Life plans to knock down walls

to make room for ACE and their new assistant director.

ACE and Student Life will now be in the same building, and the new assistant director will be responsible for weekend programming on campus, according to Severy.

Student Life will change their name to Student Involvement in Leadership sometime in March. They will start looking for potential assistant directors in the near future, but they will not officially "hire anyone until the summer," Severy said.

Severy plans to talk with Facebook in the near future to discuss whether or not they will allow Student Life to change their page or will they have to create a new one

to draw a parallel with the name change.

"Students that follow us on Facebook can expect major changes, but they have nothing to worry about. We will keep them informed with what is going on," Severy said.

Student Life also plans to make new t-shirts, mugs, letterheads, etc. changing to Student Involvement in Leadership.

The Center for Leadership and Service will become the Office for Community and Civic Engagement.

Students can expect the changes in Student Life and the Center for Leadership and Service to be complete by the fall of 2010.

SGA seeks candidates

By Chantel Moore
Staff Writer

SGA elections are scheduled for April 8 and 9. Students can vote online.

There will be several interest meetings held for students interested in running for a position in SGA. The meetings will take place from March 2 until March 4.

On March 2, the meeting will be held in Oak Hall in the second floor study room at 7 p.m.

On March 3, the meeting will be held in UC room 213 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

On March 4, the meeting will be held in Pine Hall in the first floor lounge at 7 p.m.

Applications for student body positions are due on March 15. Following the application due date, there will be an informational meeting for all applicants on March 17.

Students must have at least a 2.5 GPA in order to run for office.

When asked about the upcoming elections, SGA President Arjay Quizon said, "I'm optimistic. I believe that with the right marketing strategies, we'll get a huge voter

turnout."

Activities for election week are currently being planned.

"If you're the kind who actually cares and wants to make a difference, by all means, please run for office," Quizon said.

As advice for students interested in running for a position in SGA, Quizon said, "Don't just do it for the sake of doing it." "Winning in the election will mean a year of hard work and dedication coming from your end, and if you're not used to it, it'll be disastrous," Quizon said.

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Photo by Gabrielle Lover

During the week of Valentine's Day, the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity hosted their third annual "Kiss Away Cancer" fundraiser. Fraternity members sold stickers shaped like Hershey Kiss candies for 50 cents at their table in the U.C.