



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Meeting of the Faculty Council

Friday, December 7, 2007

3:00 p.m.

Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History

Chancellor James Moeser

and

Professor Joe Templeton, Chair of the Faculty
Presiding

AGENDA

- 3:00 Welcome, Opening Remarks, and General Questions
- Chancellor James Moeser
 - Provost Bernadette Gray-Little
- 3:30 Committee Report
- Faculty Executive Committee (Prof. Joe Templeton, Chair)
- 3:35 Priority Registration Proposal: Discussion and Vote
- Please visit a special page on the Faculty Governance website (<http://www.unc.edu/faculty/faccoun/reports/2007-08/specialrepts/PriorityRegistration/index.shtml>) for complete information on this proposal.

5:00 Adjourn



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT
CHAPEL HILL

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November 7, 2007

Letter of Transmittal to Accompany the Proposal for Priority Registration

A complex system of priority registration that is based on assorted traditions, permissions, and precedents has evolved at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There is a long history of efforts to establish a formal priority registration policy on our campus, and the goal of the Proposal for Priority Registration that is attached here is to provide a transparent, systematic mechanism for administering priority registration under appropriate scrutiny.

Informal conversations in fall 2006 led the Faculty Committee on Athletics to establish a task force to explore the possibility of proposing a priority registration system that would assist varsity athletes and other students who have notably difficult scheduling issues due to their university obligations. I was asked to Chair this task force. The initial members of the task force were Lissa Broome, Jack Evans, George Lensing (all from the Faculty Committee on Athletics), John Blanchard (Department of Athletics), and Robert Mercer (Academic Support Center for Student-Athletes).

To launch this endeavor, I consulted with various individuals regarding the groups of students who should be candidates to be covered by priority registration and the steps that would lead to a registration priority proposal being implemented. Conversations with Senior Associate Dean Bobbi Owen, Provost Bernadette Gray-Little, and Associate Dean of Academic Services Carolyn Cannon indicated that education majors, students with disabilities, and allied health majors were obvious candidates. Also, a plan emerged whereby if the Faculty Committee on Athletics endorsed the task force's proposal, the proposal would then be forwarded to the Registrar, and she would seek advice from the Educational Policy Committee regarding the proposal's merits pursuant to the charge of that committee to act "as a council of advice for the university registrar in administering faculty regulations concerning . . . registration."

To expand the task force's expertise, I consulted with Dean Tom James of the School of Education and on his advice, invited Jane Smith, Licensure Officer and Coordinator of Teacher Recruitment and Retention to join the task force. Subsequently, I also asked Anne Bryan, Director of Student Affairs of the School of Education to join. Beverly Foster, Chair of the Educational Policy Committee and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the School of Nursing; and Harold Woodard, Associate Dean of Student Academic Counseling, also agreed to join the task force.

After an initial meeting in December, the task force met four times and corresponded via e-mail. Our deliberations were focused on preparing the attached Proposal for Priority Registration. This

proposal addresses the general issue of priority registration and does not address enrollment priorities for select groups of students in particular courses (e.g., honor student enrollment in honor's classes, or eligibility for courses with supplemental instruction). Another issue that this proposal does not address is the problem facing a student who is off campus due to a university sanctioned event on the specific day when that student is expected to register for classes. These issues are adequately covered by current policies. It is our understanding that UNC currently allows students with learning disabilities to register before their classmates in order to reduce barriers to their academic success. The present proposal would formalize this policy and extend it to a broader group of students who are deemed eligible.

We consulted with the University Registrar Alice Poehls and Applications Analyst Megan Keeffe regarding the feasibility of the plan. The Registrar also helped us compile the registration priority policies at other ACC schools and at universities that we consider to be our "comparables" by updating a report prepared by the previous Registrar, David Lanier, in 2002 (Survey of Registration Priorities for Athletes 2007 – attached). She also gathered new data regarding priority registration policies at our peer institutions (Registration Priority for Athletes and Others at Selected Universities – attached). We also examined information gathered by Robert Mercer concerning registration policies for athletes at schools in the ACC and some of our comparables (SA Registration Procedures at Comparable Universities – attached). On the basis of these data, we are confident that our proposal is feasible and well within the boundaries that have been adopted by comparable institutions.

One important aspect of our deliberations was to determine how many student athletes would be eligible to be considered for priority registration. Under the guidelines of our proposal, the Athletics Department could nominate a student-athlete for priority registration during a semester in which the student's practice obligation is at the NCAA maximum of 20 hours per week. John Blanchard prepared a table (attached) showing the number of weeks per semester in which varsity athletes are practicing at the NCAA maximum of 20 hours per week. One sport (cross country) has no official practices in the spring semester, so under the guidelines of our proposal, athletes who only participate in cross country (and are not members of the track & field team) would not be eligible for priority registration for that semester. Several sports practice at the 20 hour limit for only a few weeks a semester (e.g., baseball and softball in the fall semester). These students could be nominated for priority registration, but the Priority Registration Advisory Committee might advise against it on a sport-by-sport or student-by-student basis.

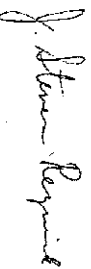
The Faculty Committee on Athletics reviewed the Proposal on May 1, 2007, endorsed it, and forwarded it to the Educational Policy Committee. Subsequently, Lissa Broome and Jack Evans raised the issue of priority registration with the Executive Committee of the Faculty Council. During the summer of 2007, I met with Student Body President Eye Carson to review the proposal, and I provided documentation to be posted on the Student Government website. I also met with Melissa Exum, Theresa Mariland, Jim Kessler, and Fred Clark to review the implications of this policy for students with special needs.

The Educational Policy Committee reviewed the Priority Registration Proposal on October 10 and October 17, and voted to return the Proposal to the task force with the request that clarifications be made regarding the scope of students who would be covered, the focus on groups of students rather than individual students, the expectations regarding annual reports, and the explicit inclusion of a four-year sunset provision that would require reauthorization of the Proposal after a thorough review by the Educational Policy Committee in collaboration with Faculty Council. A straw poll suggested that Educational Policy Committee members would vote in favor of the proposal if it incorporated the recommended changes.

I consulted with Lissa Broome and reconvened the task force with some change of membership. Specifically, Jane Smith was no longer available, but Anne Bryan continued to represent the School of Education. I also asked Theresa Maitland, Jim Kessler, and Fred Clark to join the task force. Modifications were made in the Proposal to incorporate the suggestions from the Educational Policy Committee. The Faculty Athletics Committee reviewed the revised policy on November 6, 2007 and approved it unanimously. The Educational Policy Committee reviewed the revised policy on November 7, 2007, made one minor modification, and approved it unanimously.

To summarize, we have made a diligent effort to formulate a priority registration system that solves obvious problems and has appropriate limitations and oversight to avoid misuse. The modifications suggested by the Educational Policy Committee are improvements. We look forward to a broad discussion of the proposal, and hopefully, its eventual implementation.

Sincerely,



J. Steven Reznick, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, Program in Child Development

Proposal for Priority Registration – November 7, 2007

Rationale

Some groups of undergraduate students encounter unusual challenges in our registration system that inhibit their academic progress and threaten their timely graduation. For example, students with physical or learning disabilities may require reasonable accommodations in order to reduce barriers to their academic success. Education majors in teaching programs spend the second semester of their senior year off campus as student teachers, and during their junior and senior year must complete specific courses required for certification in their areas of specialization. Nursing students must spend significant amounts of time in clinical rotations in order to meet licensure requirements. Varsity athletes must fit their class schedules with their practice/competition schedules so that they can make progress toward their degrees as required by the University and the NCAA. This proposal suggests a process for priority registration that provides a flexible but transparent approach to these issues.

Mechanism

A process for determining how students qualify for priority registration is described in subsequent paragraphs. Those students who qualify for priority registration will be allowed to register ahead of their cohort. UNC has adopted a new registration ordering plan in which the order in which students register is based on the number of semesters completed. Students who qualify for priority registration would receive the earliest assignment times for their semester cohort. In other words, a sophomore who receives priority registration would register before other sophomores but not before any juniors or seniors.

The Registrar will convene a Priority Registration Advisory Committee (the PRAC) that will meet each semester to review the student groups who have been recommended for priority registration. Members of the PRAC will be appointed by the Registrar and will include faculty, students, and administrators representing a range of interests and expertise. We recommend that the PRAC include some individuals who have had experience in educational policy, academic advising, and disability services.

Each semester, prior to the start of registration, an official who has responsibility for students who are potentially eligible for priority registration (e.g., a Dean, Director, or Department Chair) will send the Registrar a list of students who are recommended for priority registration and a rationale for the need for priority registration given the demands of the students' activities. The Registrar will forward these rationale statements to the PRAC along with a tally of the number of students being proposed (i.e., the Registrar will not give PRAC an actual list of names). In the interest of transparency and accountability, the PRAC's meetings will be open to the public, and all rationale statements and tallies as well as the PRAC's decisions will be publicly available. Having received advice from the PRAC, the Registrar will adjust assignment times for those students who are selected for priority registration.

The PRAC will review summary data regarding the operation of priority registration (e.g., the specific courses that are selected during priority registration) and suggest modifications to the Priority Registration Policy as needed. The Registrar will consult with the PRAC and seek advice from the Educational Policy Committee

regarding any amendments to the Priority Registration Policy. The Registrar will present an annual report to the Educational Policy Committee indicating the number of students who were granted or denied priority registration, and evaluating whether course selection during priority registration appears to be serving its intended purpose.

The Priority Registration Policy proposed here will be in effect for a trial period of four years. After four years, the Registrar will request that the Educational Policy Committee in collaboration with Faculty Council review how well the policy is working and make a formal recommendation regarding whether the policy should be continued as is, modified, or allowed to lapse.

Limitations

As a general rule, we recommend that no more than 25% of the seats in each section be available for priority registration. The Registrar and the PRAC will monitor the distribution of priority registration students across sections to determine whether any sections are being selected disproportionately. If significant over-enrollment occurs in selected courses, the Registrar will work with the department involved so that seat availability in selected courses is capped at 25% during the next priority registration.

Eligibility for Priority Registration

Priority registration will be extended to undergraduate students who encounter unusual challenges in our registration system that inhibit their academic progress and threaten their timely graduation. It is difficult to establish an a priori definition of “unusual”, but the Priority Registration Task Force has identified three groups that would be exemplars of these unusual registration challenges. Thus, these student groups are eligible to be considered for priority registration if the students in the group meet any of the following conditions:

- The student engages in an activity that formally represents the University and by virtue of that representation is required to attend practices and events during hours in which classes are offered (e.g., varsity athletes during a semester in which the student’s practice obligation is at the NCAA maximum of 20 hours per week);
- The student is enrolled in a degree program requiring that at least one semester be spent off campus (e.g., student teaching), that specific courses in Arts and Sciences be successfully completed in order to obtain licensure (e.g., Education majors), or that requires significant time be devoted to clinical practice (e.g., nursing, allied health, etc); or
- The student has a disability for which priority registration is an approved accommodation.

Other groups that may have comparable registration challenges may be proposed for priority registration by an official who has responsibility for their program (e.g., a Dean, Director, or Department Chair), and these groups will be reviewed by the PRAC. Individual students may not apply directly to the Registrar for priority registration.

FOCUS

THE NATION

Global Warming Solutions for America

Focus the Nation: Global Warming Solutions for America is a national initiative to get colleges, universities, businesses, and other civic organizations in the United States to collaboratively engage in a nationwide, interdisciplinary discussion about solutions to global warming.

As one of over 1,000 institutions across the nation signed on to this important initiative, UNC has made the pledge to host a Focus the Nation Day on January 31st, 2008.

Levels of participation

↓
Announce the event in class on 1/31.

↓
Lead a 5-10 minute class discussion on climate change on 1/31.

We can give you some conversation starters for your class!

↓
Focus your whole 1/31 class on the topic of global climate change.

Need Ideas? We can put you in touch with the experts!

↓
Help Focus the Nation recruit more faculty participation.

↓
Give a campus lecture about how your discipline relates to climate change solutions.

We'll publicize your talk for you!

Endorsements

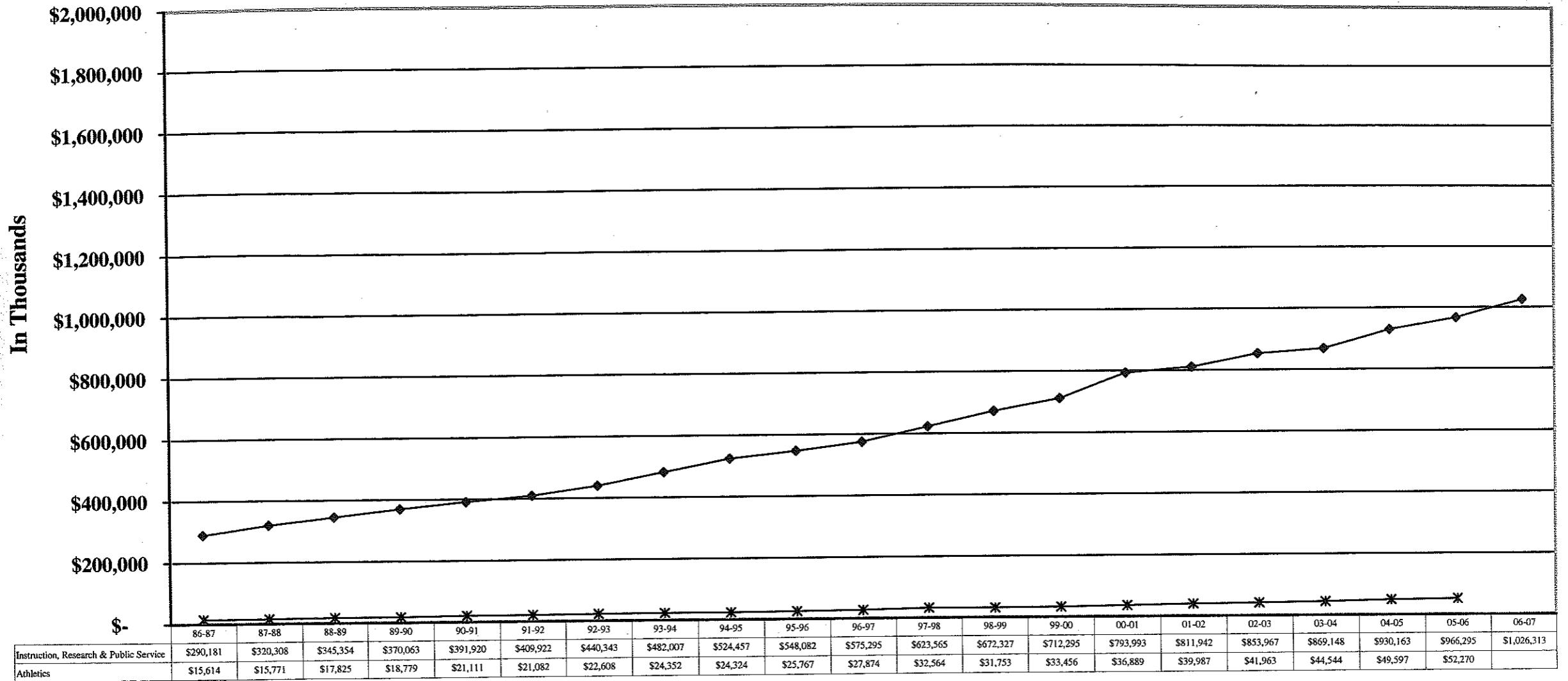
- Chancellor Moeser
- Student Body President Eve Carson
- UNC School of Education
- UNC Biology Department
- UNC Institute for the Environment
- Curriculum in Ecology

75 UNC Instructors from the following departments have already signed on:

American History	Journalism
American Studies	Marine Sciences
Art History	Nursing
Asian Studies	Philosophy
Biology	Physics
Business	Political Science
Chemistry	Public Policy
Communications	Religious Studies
Economics	Romance Languages
English	School of Nursing.
Environmental Studies	School of Public Health
French	Sociology
Geography	Women's Studies
Geology	

...but we need you too!

Core Operating Expenses Compared To Athletics



◆ Instruction, Research & Public Service
 * Athletics

Average Annual Growth Rate:
 Instruction, Research and Public Service = 6.5%
 Athletics = 6.7%

UNC-Chapel Hill Office of Faculty Governance

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

December 7, 2007

The Faculty Council of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill convened at 3:00 p.m. in the Hitchcock Multipurpose Room of the Sorja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History.

The following 52 members of the Council attended: Aaron, Bagnell, Bathrop, Barreau, Belger, Bickford, Binotti, Blackburn, Blocher, Bloom, Boukheifia, Broome, Conway, Copenhaver, Couper, DeSaix, Dupuis, Earp, Gerber, Gilligan, Gulledege, Halloran, Heenan, Hendrick, Kamarei, Katznelson, Kelly, Kendall, Koroluk, Kramer, Lauen, LeFebvre, Maffly-Kipp, Mauro, McGrath, Meade, Melannut, Moss, Murray, Oatley, Papanikolas, Paquette, Parsons, Peirce, Perrin, Pruvost, Renner, Rhodes, Rodgers, Saunders, Sheldon, Silversmith, Stein, Sweeney, Temple, Threadgill, Toews, Visser, Weinberg, and Wilson.

The following 23 members were granted excused absences: Ammerman, Andrews, Ashby, Bachenheimer, Bangdiwala, Brice, Campbell, Chin, Ernst, Ewend, Hightow, Hobbs, Hodges, Leonard, Lesneski, Orth, Votta, Wegner, Whisnant, Wilder, Williams, Wissick, and Yankaskas.

The following 7 members were absent without excuse: Coleman, Marshall, McCombs, Rosamond, Thorp, Vernon-Feagans, and Weil.

Chancellor's Remarks and Question Period

Prof. James Moeser called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. He began by thanking the Council for devoting today's agenda to priority registration and especially thanked Prof. Steven Reznick (Psychology), the Educational Policy Committee, and the Faculty Athletics Committee for their part in developing the proposal. He said that in his view it is important for the faculty to take the lead in formulating University policy in this area because it is fundamentally an issue of academic policy. Now, we have no publicly announced policy, he said. A formal policy can achieve fairness to students who face unusual challenges. Several of our peer institutions have priority registration policies, he said, but none of them approach the clarity and comprehensiveness of what is being proposed today. The chancellor said that he understands that many faculty members have reservations about the wisdom of the proposed policy, but, he added, "I believe the proposal before you is appropriate and thoughtful." He concluded by saying that he supported the proposal and hoped the faculty would as well.

Prof. John Sweeney (Journalism & Mass Communication) asked what the University is doing to address the extreme drought conditions we are now facing. Chancellor Moeser asked Assoc. Vice Chancellor Carolyn Elfland to respond.

Ms. Elfland explained that the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), which serves the University and the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community, has three reservoirs: University Lake, Cane Creek Reservoir, and an abandoned stone quarry. At the moment, these sources are at about 45% capacity, which is enough for 215 days. She said that five years ago, during a severe drought, capacity was down to 28%. Since then the University has achieved a sustained reduction of 10% reduction in usage. Ms. Elfland pointed out that OWASA recovers slowly from drought because the Cane Creek Reservoir is six times larger than University Lake but the size of the two watersheds is the same. This means it takes six

times as much rainfall to fill Cane Creek as it does for University Lake. She listed several things being done to permanently reduce University water consumption and temporary measures now being taken. One of the most effective in the long run will be the reclaimed water system just now in the bidding stage, which will not be complete until 2009. Meanwhile, the University is working with OWASA to develop a temporary above-ground system to use reclaimed water in our chiller plants. That project will require a number of roadway cuts for which expedited permission is being sought. Ms. Elfland said that the largest remaining opportunity for water conservation is in research laboratories.

Prof. Christopher Armitage (English) said that as the semester draws to a close, he believes the University has achieved a high rate of success in teaching our students. Comparing that success rate with Head Football Coach Burch Davis' 33% win rate this year, he wondered what size salary bonus he might expect in his Christmas stocking.

Chancellor Moeser said that the decision to give Coach Davis a salary increase and extended contract was fundamentally a business decision. He pointed out that the Department of Athletics is entirely self-supporting and does not compete with academic departments for funding. Essentially all athletics revenue comes from football and men's basketball. Before Coach Davis was hired, football was rapidly becoming an unsustainable business that threatened to send the Athletics Department to the budget committee for a bailout. That would have put athletics into direct competition with academics for funding. Chancellor Moeser disputed the widely-held assertion that intercollegiate athletics is out of control. He pointed out that the Athletic Department's percentage of the total budget has remained constant since 1985 and has grown at a lower rate of increase than other areas of the budget such as research. He agreed that across the nation intercollegiate athletics operates in an exaggerated marketplace, but we have chosen to compete there and must accept the realities of the situation. He asserted that we have attempted, in the football program, not to compete at the highest levels of the marketplace with the financial results that we now experience. Chancellor Moeser said that he firmly believes that the decisions that have been made with respect to the football program have been correct, and that Coach Davis is committed to the same academic values shared by other coaches in our athletic programs. He said that we have a clean program here and that Carolina is a national leader in conducting its intercollegiate athletics programs in the right way. He concluded by saying that speaking as a faculty member and professor of music he understands the faculty's frustration, but as chancellor he must deal with the world in which we live.

Prof. Ed Halloran (Nursing) said that his older brother had played on Yale's last undefeated and untied football team in 1960. He wondered whether there was any hope that Carolina might move toward the approach to athletics shared by members of the Ivy League. Chancellor Moeser said that the fundamental issue is whether any group of institutions can change the market culture in which we now operate. He noted that the NCAA is putting in place new ways of gathering data that will enable institutions to benchmark against other institutions in order to inform their decision-making. He said that he doubts there is any "silver bullet" for the situation because it is driven by television revenue which, in turn, is driven by popular demand for sports entertainment. Overall, he said that he continues to believe that athletics is a positive force for Carolina.

Annual Report of the Faculty Executive Committee

Chair of the Faculty Joseph Templeton filed the Annual Report of the Executive Committee by title. There were no questions.

Prof. Templeton noted that Prof. William Leuchtenburg (History) and Prof. Darrel Stafford (Biology) were recipients of the 2007 North Carolina Award. This award was established by the General Assembly in 1961 and is the highest honor bestowed by the State of North Carolina.

Priority Registration

Prof. Reznick, chair of the Priority Registration Task Force, opened the discussion. He chaired a task force originally appointed by the Faculty Athletics Committee in 2006 that was charged with exploring the possibility of proposing a priority registration system to assist varsity athletes and other students with difficult scheduling issues. Prof. Reznick summarized **the proposal**, highlighting the following points:

- The central feature is a Priority Registration Advisory Committee (PRAC) that will oversee the program and advise the University Registrar on its administration.
- Meetings of the PRAC will be open to the public.
- The Registrar will report annually to the Educational Policy Committee on PRAC activity.
- Priority registration would be instituted for a four-year trial period, after which it would be reviewed by the Faculty Council and a decision made whether to continue it.
- The goal is to limit students eligible for priority registration to not more than 10% of the student body.
- We already have elements of a priority registration system in place: seniors register before juniors, who register before sophomores. Also, it is long-standing policy that deans may recommend individual students for priority registration.
- Priority registration is not inherently unfair; it is reasonable and just to accommodate special needs and challenges faced by certain students.
- Direct evidence of the need for a priority registration system is found in exit interviews with graduating seniors in athletics programs; empirical data from other sources is difficult to find.
- Peer institutions have priority registration systems that are not necessarily transparent; the committee did not find a model worthy of emulation.
- Priority registration will not override the existing authority of departments to ensure that majors are able to enroll in required courses on a timely basis.
- Although the proposal recommends that not more than 25% of the seats in a given section would be open to priority registrants, it is not clear how this idea would mesh with departmental control over course enrollment and, furthermore, we do not at the present have software capability to implement such a cap.
- Student opinion appears to be divided.

Prof. Susan Bickford (Political Science) spoke against the proposal. She said that she favors priority registration for students with disabilities and those who need particular courses for curricular reasons, but she did not support it for student athletes. She acknowledged that the challenges student athletes face due to practice schedules are “quite alarming,” but she contended that those challenges stem from decisions made by the coaches. The proposal put forward by the task force assumes that practice schedules are unchangeable and that the rest of the University must adapt to them. She felt that the better solution is to place constraints on practice time. Prof. Bickford also pointed out that the proposal recommends no accommodation for students who must work to support themselves, students with children at home, and others whose need for schedule accommodation is at least as great as that of student athletes. Finally, Prof. Bickford expressed concern at the effect the proposal will have on departments and curricula.

Prof. Donna Gilleskie (Economics) spoke in favor of the proposal. She said that her service on the Educational Policy Committee this year had exposed her to more viewpoints on this issue that she had experienced before. She said that she was initially opposed to the idea, but when she learned about the “back door” means by which priority registration may presently be obtained, she moved to the other extreme and came to support the proposal.

Mr. Steve Malamut (Law Library) spoke against the proposal. He emphasized that the mission of the University is tied to academic endeavors. Extra-curricular activities have a place, but participation in them should not be a grounds for academic advantage. He, too, found it difficult to prefer student athletes over single mothers or students who have to work for their support. He understood that the present "covert" system would be replaced by the proposal, but he felt that compromise is sometimes an unacceptable result and that this is one such occasion.

Prof. John Papanikolas (Chemistry) spoke for the proposal. He said that before the November Faculty Council meeting, he knew nothing about priority registration and had given it no thought. Having read the task force report and background materials, he agrees that we now have a "murky, cloudy, back-door" system. The task force's proposal, by contrast, is "open, transparent, and open to scrutiny." The question, he said, is whether their proposal is the best solution. He thought it to be reasonable and well-presented. To develop the ideal plan, we would need to know more about the problem than we do now. He thought one of the best features of the proposal was the four-year sunset, by which time we should know much more about the whole issue. He concluded by urging "let's try it; do the experiment, gather the data, then decide."

Prof. Patrick Conway (Economics) spoke against the proposal. He agreed that some kind of priority registration program is needed, but he felt that the University Registrar already has ample authority to address this issue on a case-by-case basis and that the task force proposal, with its overly-broad reach, is not needed.

Prof. Peter Gordon (Psychology) said that he and other members of the Educational Policy Committee were initially strongly opposed to the proposal but that, having worked through the issues carefully, he and other members of the committee had come to support the proposal enthusiastically.

Mr. Michael Tarrant, Vice President of the Student Body, opposed the proposal. He said that the Executive Branch of Student Government supports having a written policy on priority registration, but does not support the policy proposed by the task force. He said that the primary beneficiaries of the task force proposal are student athletes, students with disabilities, students preparing for student teaching, and nursing students about to begin clinical work. He said that there is no convincing evidence that these students, other than those with disabilities, experience difficulties greater than a number of other students not covered by the policy. He mentioned students in ROTC and the marching band as examples.

Prof. Bill Balthrop (Communication Studies) spoke for the proposal. He said that his initial reaction was negative but that he had changed his mind. The equity issue most often discussed arises from challenges faced by student athletes and others engaged in certain extra-curricular activities that involve mutual agreements between the student and the institution. He said there is a qualitative difference between participation in an extra-curricular activity that is purely voluntary and one that entails mutual commitment between the student and the university.

Prof. Andrew Perrin (Sociology) asked whether there would be any means of priority registration next semester if the task force proposal is rejected. University Registrar Alice Poehls replied that she will terminate the present informal system if the task force proposal is defeated, and the Educational Policy Committee supports her in this decision.

Prof. Perrin said that he commends the task force for its proposal because it has clarified the issue, is completely clean, and takes into account all of the considerations. Nevertheless, he said that he opposes the proposal because the basic concept is fundamentally flawed.

Prof. Shilda Rogers (Nursing) asked, rhetorically, whether other students with special needs would be considered, mentioning care-givers for elderly parents or disabled children and others as examples. She said that nursing students do not actually need priority registration.

Prof. Suzanne Gullledge (Education) remarked that the special needs faced by education majors arises primarily from subject-matter content requirements for certification, not so much from practice teaching.

Prof. Sweeney said that he found the transparency argument persuasive, but was not convinced that the four-year sunset would actually work. He asked who would remember to bring the proposal back in 2011-12. Prof. Reznick said that would be the responsibility of the Educational Policy Committee and the University Registrar.

Prof. Ellen Peirce (Business) asked how the task force arrived at the proposed 25% cap on priority registration enrollment. Prof. Reznick replied that the task force thought there should be some safeguard against a course being filled during the priority registration period, but the 25% figure was arbitrary.

Prof. Peirce moved to amend the proposal to reduce the cap to 15%. Prof. Melinda Meade (Geography) seconded.

Prof. Lloyd Kramer (History), recalling that Prof. Reznick had said that current software does not accommodate an enrollment cap, asked what would happen if a given section was filled by student athletes during the priority registration period. Ms. Poehls replied that such an occurrence would be revealed only after the fact; there is currently no way to police it in advance. The Registrar added that she had analyzed registration data to identify the most popular courses and those that filled first. The analysis did not reveal that any of those courses were disproportionately filled by student athletes; in fact, there was no pattern.

Prof. Jessica Katznelson (Pediatrics) spoke forcefully against the proposal on grounds that it is fundamentally unfair.

Prof. Donna Lefebvre (Political Science) moved the previous question on the amendment proposed by Prof. Peirce.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. John Blanchard, Senior Assoc. Director of Athletics, asked consent for two student athletes to address the Council. Mr. Christopher Litchford (Senior) and Ms. Katie Miller (Senior) spoke in favor of the proposal.

Prof. Jack Evans (Business) said that the principal justification for accoring priority registration to student athletes is that most of them are scholarship students who are subject to requirements to maintain eligibility that are not applicable to other students.

Prof. Peirce asked again if priority registration would be terminated should the proposal fail. Registrar Poehls reiterated her earlier assertion that it would and added that this would be the case for students with disabilities as well as student athletes.

Discussion having concluded, Prof. Templeton called for a vote by roll call. Thirty-five members of the Council voted in the affirmative, 17 in the negative. The proposal was adopted.

Adjournment

Its business having been completed, the Council adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Joseph S. Ferrell
Secretary of the Faculty

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

