The East Carolina University Board of Trustees on Monday considered tuition and fee increases ranging from 6.5 to 12.5 percent beginning next fall.

In an afternoon conference call, three options were presented for 2012-13 school year: increases of 6.5, 10 and 12.5 percent, which translates to $218, $335 or $418 in resident undergraduate costs. Proposed fee increases total $95. No action was taken.

Most University of North Carolina system schools are looking at percent increases 8-10 percent, officials said. Chapel Hill trustees recently approved a 15.6 percent increase, or $800, for resident undergraduates.

A standing policy caps increases at 6.5 percent each year, but “catch-up” increases beyond that are allowed this year for schools with significant unfunded needs as long as they are comparable with their peer institutions.

“I favor access and affordability that is central to the mission of East Carolina University,” Chancellor Steve Ballard said. “Having said that ... with the severe fiscal crisis we’re in educationally I think puts us in a different place this year.”

Tuition and fees at ECU increased this year by $567, or 11.9 percent, with some previously scheduled increases on top of the 6.5 percent cap. Resident undergraduates are paying $5,514 for a year’s tuition and fees, compared to
$4.947 last year. State appropriations to ECU were cut 16 percent, or $49 million, and 180 class sections were cut. Option 1, a 6.5 percent increase, would yield about $7.9 million. Option 2, a 10 percent increase, would yield about $12.2 million. Option 3, a 12.5 percent increase, would yield about $15.2 million.

Since there is no enrollment growth money this year, the increases are needed to maintain courses and retain faculty, who have not had raises in four years, Ballard said.

“My recommendations to the board will try to keep the quality component central, because we are at the tipping point in losing some of the quality,” Ballard said. “We have to restore the quality of our programs and make some money available so we don’t jeopardize (our programs).”

Ballard said he likely would recommend the “catch-up” increases on top of the 6.5 percent annual increase.

Professional medical and dental schools have different regulations. The ECU Brody School of Medicine is looking at a $1,500 tuition increase per year. The new ECU School of Dental medicine considering a $455 increase per trimester, or $1,365 per year.

The fee increase breakdown is $35 for athletics, $40 for education technology, $6 for student services, $5 for health services, $3 for graduation and $6 for transit.

The university has been seeking campus input through a tuition committee, a web survey given to students with 2,000 mostly favorable responses, and two open forums earlier this semester.

Monday’s meeting marks the beginning of a long tuition approval process.

The trustees are expected to make an initial decision at their next meeting on Dec. 2. The UNC system Board of Governors will make its decision at the February meeting, followed by final approval by the General Assembly when it reconvenes in May.

Contact Jackie Drake at jdrake@reflector.com or 252-329-9567.
Timely, reliable information represents the most important commodity in a crisis situation, and it was in short supply last week when a man with an umbrella sparked a campus wide lockdown of East Carolina University. Initial assessments indicate that the ECU Alert did not operate as efficiently as desired, creating a vacuum filled by panic and misinformation.

East Carolina has only recently created this system to communicate with the campus community in case of emergency and so there is some expectation that events like this will illuminate inefficiencies. If the safety of students, faculty and staff stands as the administration’s top priority, however, it will need to rectify these flaws and build a reliable system in short order.

Prior to the Virginia Tech shooting in April 2007, most colleges and universities operated rudimentary communication networks to quickly alert a given campus of safety threats. The shooting of 57 people, 32 fatally, that day sent administrators scrambling as the need to distribute information quickly became paramount to protecting the university community.

In the years since, East Carolina has been among those institutions testing its emergency response plan and working to prepare for the frightening possibility of a Virginia Tech-type shooter on campus. It has mounted speakers on buildings, developed a social media infrastructure and conducted drills to ready itself. Then, last week, it figuratively plugged that system in for its first live action.

The results were less than stellar. Sluggish updates allowed students and other social media users to fill the information void with rumors and falsehoods. Poor communication between law enforcement agencies meant an officer who previously spotted the suspect and determined him to have an umbrella failed to spread that critical information. In the end, the campus was safe, but it illuminated a system in need of improvement.
It is critically important that by its missteps the East Carolina administration is not discouraged from issuing alerts when it deems appropriate. Rather, it should be urged to pursue more reliable communication distribution networks and stronger ties with other law enforcement agencies to ensure a better response should such a scenario unfold in the future.

Ultimately, research is what universities do best and that logical approach should be applied to emergency response plans as much as developing academic theories and broadening the scope of understanding. East Carolina should be encouraged by its actions last week while recognizing ample room for improvement.
East Carolina University’s brass expressed its collective hope on Monday that its football team will benefit from an impending conference merger, but also that ECU is playing its cards correctly in a complicated time in college athletics.

ECU chancellor Dr. Steve Ballard lauded Monday the expected merger between Conference USA and the Mountain West Conference, and also said it’s time for college football to dissolve its automatic qualifier policy for the season-ending Bowl Championship Series games.

Before wading into a discussion on proposed changes in student fees and tuition, Ballard and the ECU Board of Trustees weighed in on the status of conference expansion, being joined on the phone by director of athletics Terry Holland.

“The conference situation remains, depending on who you listen to or read, chaotic at best,” Ballard said Monday inside ECU’s Spilman Building. “I think changes will continue for the foreseeable future. We’re at a lull here that might last a day or a month or two months, but the realignment picture will continue.”

Ballard said he expects the proposed 18- to 22-team merged football league will benefit ECU by limiting travel, but stood firm on his belief that such a league deserves an automatic qualifying berth into the BCS for its champion.

“The automatic qualifier status is under great pressure and review and criticism, and I personally don’t think it can last past 2013,” Ballard said. “After that year, the automatic qualifying thing which seems to be driving so much of the conference change is likely to be done away with, and I think it’s high time that performance replace any automatic qualification criteria.”

The ECU chancellor said he expects the merger to be approved in January, at least for football.
While Ballard says he thinks the east division in the new merged league would be comprised of mostly familiar C-USA opponents like Southern Miss, Memphis and Tulane, he speculated there could be newcomers, especially with the knowledge that a handful of both leagues’ current members are likely headed elsewhere.

“I think there is a good chance of adding one or two teams in the east that would be prestigious for the conference,” Ballard said. “Since that work is going on, I won’t mention all of the possibilities, but there are four or five schools that are being seriously talked to as possible new additions to this new merged conference.”

Ballard said he expected the new league would generate decidedly better — double, he estimated — television revenue than either of the two conferences have on their own, and also pointed out the advantage of not being forced to play as many midweek games due to TV agreements.

“It will reduce, though certainly not eliminate, a lot of the long trips,” Ballard said. “I think the new Big East partners will have much harder travel time than the new Conference USA-Mountain West (members).”

Holland confirmed Monday that ECU’s application to the Big East has not been retracted, meaning if the league decided it wanted ECU as part of its flood of new members, that could be a possibility for the Pirates. But the impending merger is still ECU’s best bet, Holland said.

“We’ve got a lot of ears out there listening and a lot of eyes trying to watch as best we can, but by the same token, this merger, particularly if we can have a division … where we played everybody in our division, the nine teams with eight football games and full round-robin, that’s what college athletics is all about,” he said. “That’s what we’ve been asking for all along.”

While it might be smart to keep its options open, Holland told Ballard and the Board of Trustees the merger is ECU’s future.

“I think we commit to the merger, our full energy, and then if something better comes along or if there is some reason to reconsider, or if the AQ survives, then we start to develop strategies for how we can either get an AQ
or continue to look for opportunities to change conferences if that becomes necessary,” Holland said.

*Contact Nathan Summers at nsummers@reflector.com or 252-329-9595.*
Davis Library is a favorite spot for students in need of intense concentration. But this fall, the library couldn't afford late-night staff, so the doors closed at midnight.

**UNC library open late again, thanks to unusual gift**

BY JANE STANCILL - jstancill@newsobserver.com

CHAPEL HILL The late-night cram sessions have resumed at UNC-Chapel Hill's Davis Library after a donation from an unusual source: the Rams Club. The athletics booster group, formally known as the Educational Foundation, contributed $35,000 to the library to restore late-night hours axed in the latest round of state budget cuts.

Davis will now stay open until 2 a.m. Sundays to Thursdays through the end of the semester, and in the spring and fall semesters next year.

Brainiacs rejoiced at the news.

"That's a great thing," said Carrie Trull, a junior English major from Rocky Mount.

Trull plays piccolo for the Marching Tar Heels, so she spends a couple of hours at practice in the early evenings. On a typical night, she doesn't start studying until after 9 p.m.

"I'm up until 1 or 2 most nights," she said. "It's nice to have somewhere to go where you know you have your own space and it's quiet."
The high-rise library has long been a favorite destination for students in need of intense concentration. But this fall, the library didn't have enough money to staff the building into the wee hours, so the doors to Davis were shut at midnight.

"Everybody certainly understood that this was the result of the budget, but it had a real impact on the ability of students to get their work done," said Judy Panitch, director of library communications. "It was really unfortunate."

Students still had the opportunity to walk a short distance to the R.B. House Undergraduate Library, open around the clock on weeknights. But "the undergrad," as it's affectionately known, can get crowded, and it has a social-club vibe at times.

In recent years, the library has been the location of a flash mob dance during exam week.

This isn't the first time the Rams Club has come through for the library. The foundation gave $50,000 toward the purchase of a rare book collection in 1985 and $50,000 to help restore services cut during a budget crunch in 1990.

The foundation raises money for scholarships and athletics facilities to support student-athletes. The Educational Foundation Inc. had revenues of $29 million and total assets of $88 million, according to 2009 tax returns.

A separate but related foundation that supports scholarships had revenues of $10 million and total assets of $175 million that same year.

Moyer Smith, former executive director of the Rams Club, is a member of UNC's Friends of the Library Board. He posed the idea of a donation to John Montgomery, the current executive director.

"We just felt like that as part of the university community, we need to help out when we can, especially if it will have an impact on so many students," Montgomery said. "We feel good about that."

**Late hours popular**

The gesture comes during a year of negative news for Tar Heel athletics, as the football program was the subject of an investigation by the NCAA.

Montgomery said that had nothing to do with the donation. The Rams Club raises money for students who participate in a variety of sports. "I think this is just an extension of that," he said.
The money allows the library to employ a staff member and a security guard for the late-night hours. An average of 200 students use the library between midnight and 2 a.m. daily, Panitch said.

One of them is Trevor Dougherty, a freshman journalism major from New Mexico, who was checking his Twitter feed at a break between classes on a recent day.

Dougherty has been booted out of Davis several times this fall as the doors closed. Midnight is way too early to turn out the lights, he said.

Now he'll have two extra hours a night, just in time for exams in December.

"It's too bad the university didn't have the money on its own," he said. "I'm glad someone chipped in to make it happen."

Stancill: 919-829-4559

**Davis Library**

**Opened:** 1984

**Collections:** Major collections in humanities, social sciences, business and foreign languages, along with maps and government documents. The library spans eight floors and 400,000 square feet.

**Named for:** Walter Royal Davis, the late Texas oil tycoon who was a UNC trustee and benefactor.

**Funded by:** Proceeds from the sale of university utilities. About $30 million was spent to build Davis, to renovate Wilson Library and to add to the Health Sciences Library. Davis was instrumental in persuading state officials to allow UNC-CH to receive the money from the sale.
Ken Frazier, right, chairman of the Penn State University special committee, speaks during a press availability to announce former FBI director Louis Freeh, left, will lead an independent investigation into allegations of child abuse by a former Penn State employee Monday, Nov. 21, 2011 in Philadelphia.

**Penn St. taps ex-FBI director for investigation**

By PATRICK WALTERS - Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA Former FBI director Louis Freeh, tapped to lead Penn State's investigation into the child sex abuse allegations against a former assistant football coach, said his inquiry will go as far back as 1975, a much longer period than a grand jury report issued earlier this month.

Freeh was named Monday to oversee the university board of trustees' internal investigation into the abuse allegations that ultimately led to the ouster of longtime football coach Joe Paterno and university President Graham Spanier.

Freeh said his goal was to conduct a comprehensive, fair and quick review. His team of former FBI agents, federal prosecutors and others has already begun the process of reading the grand jury report and looking at records.

"We will immediately report any evidence of criminality to law enforcement authorities," said Freeh, who has no direct connection to Penn State.

Penn State has faced criticism since announcing that its internal investigation would be led by two university trustees, Merck pharmaceutical
company CEO Kenneth Frazier and state Education Secretary Ronald Tomalis.

Faculty members on Friday called for an independent investigation of how the university handled abuse allegations, and the faculty senate endorsed a resolution asking for an independent investigation.

In announcing Freeh's appointment, Frazier stressed the former FBI director's independence. Freeh will be empowered to investigate employees up to and including the board of trustees itself, Frazier said.

"No one is above scrutiny," Frazier said. "He has complete rein to follow any lead, to look into every corner of the university to get to the bottom of what happened and then to make recommendations that will help ensure that it never happens again."

Freeh said he had been assured there would be "no favoritism." He called that assurance "the main condition of my engagement."

Former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky is accused of molesting eight boys over a 15-year period beginning in the mid-1990s. Authorities say some assaults happened on campus and were reported to administrators but not to police.

Authorities say Sandusky, who retired from Penn State in 1999, met the children through The Second Mile, a youth charity that he started in 1977. By going back as far as 1975, Freeh's investigation would cover the entire time The Second Mile has existed and 24 of the 30 years that Sandusky worked at Penn State.

Amid the scandal, Penn State's trustees ousted Spanier and Paterno. The trustees said Spanier and Paterno failed to act after a graduate assistant claimed he saw Sandusky sexually abusing a young boy in a campus shower in 2002.

Paterno, who has the most wins of any major college football coach, has conceded he should have done more. Spanier has said he would have reported a crime if he had suspected one had been committed.

Sandusky has said he is innocent. He has acknowledged he showered with boys but said he never molested them.

Former school administrators Tim Curley - who is on administrative leave - and Gary Schultz are charged with not properly alerting authorities to suspected abuse and with perjury. They maintain their innocence.
Freeh founded an investigation firm, Freeh Group International Solutions, after leading the FBI from 1993 to 2001. He previously served six years as a special agent.

After his time at the FBI, Freeh also did work for credit card giant MBNA, which has business relationships with Penn State and its alumni association. But a spokeswoman for Freeh's investigation said in a statement that it would not compromise the probe. The statement said Freeh has "no previous personal connection to Penn State" and had no role in negotiating MBNA's longstanding business deal with the school.

Freeh's law firm was hired to look into the bribery case involving FIFA's presidential election. Soccer's governing body banned candidate Mohamed bin Hammam for life for bribing voters. The ruling body also banned 11 Caribbean soccer leaders and disciplined others in the corruption scandal.

Freeh said he spoke with Attorney General Linda Kelly on Sunday night and was determined not to interfere with the ongoing criminal case. A spokesman for Kelly said she was aware of the Penn State trustees' special committee but declined to comment on it.

Gov. Tom Corbett called Freeh's selection "a good one," noting his familiarity with grand juries and the role of prosecutors.

Rod Erickson, Penn State's new president, also lauded the selection. He vowed complete cooperation and said Freeh's findings "will prompt immediate actions for which I will remain responsible."

Freeh will report to a special committee comprised of six university trustees; Dan Hagen, chair of the university's faculty senate; Rodney Hughes, a doctoral student in higher education at Penn State; and retired Air Force Col. and astronaut Guion Bluford, a 1964 Penn State graduate.

Officials also announced that anyone who has information related to the probe can contact investigators at a telephone hotline - 855-290-3382 - and a special email, PSUhelp(at)freehgroup.com.

Meanwhile, Penn State police have referred a report of an indecent assault at an outdoor swimming pool building to the attorney general's office.

A police log noted the report referred to an incident that occurred between June 1, 2000, and Aug. 30, 2000. The report was made to campus police Wednesday and was noted on Thursday's police log.
When asked if the report was related to allegations against Sandusky, Penn State Police Chief Tyrone Parham said Monday: "We can never describe anything related to a victim or suspect."

State open records laws don't require Penn State to release the full police report.

A state lawmaker who represents the State College area said he was sponsoring a bill that would reverse the exemption - which applies to Penn State and three other universities that rely heavily on state funding but are independently run.

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff said a "more open climate" might prevent future scandals.

Associated Press writers Genaro C. Armas in State College, Pa.; Marc Levy and Mark Scolforo in Harrisburg, Pa.; and Fred Lief in New York contributed to this report.
Protesters at the University of California, Davis, have been calling for the chancellor to quit since a pepper spray attack Friday by the police.

California’s Campus Movements Dig In Their Heels

By JENNIFER MEDINA

LOS ANGELES — It has become something of an annual tradition on California college campuses, in what is perhaps the most prestigious state university system in the country: the state makes large cuts in public universities, they in turn raise tuition, and students respond with angry protests.

But this year, propelled in part by the fervor of the Occupy Wall Street movement and in part by the state of the economy and California’s mountainous budget woes, the battle is sharpening. Indeed, the Occupy movement — on campuses, at least — is transforming itself into a student-led crusade against increases in tuition.

A video that showed two University of California, Davis, police officers using pepper spray on seated protesters has gone viral, with hundreds of thousands watching what might have been a relatively small encampment compared with the larger protests across the country. The video has led to
demands that Chancellor Linda P. B. Katehi resign. On Monday, Ms. Katehi said she was putting the campus police chief on administrative leave as a way to rebuild trust on campus.

The attack has galvanized protesters on other campuses. Students at the Los Angeles, Berkeley, Riverside and Davis campuses said Monday that they intended to restart their encampments Monday night, in part to test whether they will be rousted or arrested in the wake of the pepper-spraying.

After years of watching the state’s budget for higher education erode, they are demanding that the state and university administrators find a way to lower tuition that they say is squeezing out the middle class.

“These are institutions that we call the people’s university, but all of us who are in it have just watched this thing collapse on itself being starved for resources year after year,” said Lillian Taiz, the president of the California Faculty Association, the union that represents professors in the California State University system. “What keeps happening is that we are turning the university into a place where really only the wealthy can go. The students are watching their parents fall out of the middle class and watching their own ability to move into it be sabotaged.”

Tuition at the University of California has nearly doubled over the last several years, and next year the system will collect more money from student tuition than from state revenues. And with the state budget situation worsening by the month, the Legislature seems likely to impose another $200 million in higher education cuts next year. Last week, the California State University Board of Trustees approved a 9 percent tuition increase, even as it cuts courses and student services.

“For the last several years, the debate has been what are we going to cut, but we need to change the conversation to who is going to pay for public education?” said Kyle Arnone, one of the protest organizers at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a graduate student in sociology. “We are forcing people to consider the financing of education in a larger context.”

Like many of the organizers involved in the protest, Mr. Arnone is a member of the union that represents graduate students. The union is part of a coalition of labor groups and other organizations that are pressing to close a loophole in the state’s property taxes and to increase taxes on the state’s wealthiest residents. Mr. Arnone said the organization hoped to pressure the regents who oversee the system’s budget to sign a pledge backing the changes in the state’s tax system.
Mr. Arnone said he expected dozens of students to camp at U.C.L.A. overnight Monday. At the same time, other students are planning to camp out and guard a Bruin statue, the campus mascot. The statue is often vandalized this time of year, ahead of the football game against the school’s cross town rival, the University of Southern California. “We’re going to make them deal with whether they’ll selectively enforce their laws.”

The University of California president, Mark G. Yudof, convened a conference call with the chancellors of all 10 campuses, urging them not to use police force to respond to “peaceful, lawful protests,” said Daniel M. Dooley, a senior vice president for the system who participated in the call. The president also plans to create protocols to detail how the campuses should respond to the ongoing protest.

Mr. Dooley said that he did not expect Ms. Katehi to resign and that President Yudof had confidence that she could move the campus beyond the incident.

Thousands of people gathered on the Davis campus for a noon rally Monday where Chancellor Katehi spoke. Organizers of the protest there told her she should wait in line with other speakers.

“I am here to apologize. I feel horrible for what happened on Friday,” she told the crowd. “I don’t want to be the chancellor of the university we had on Friday.”

She added: “I know you may not believe anything I am telling you today, and you don’t have to. It is my responsibility to earn your trust.”

Administrators in the U.C. system have long complained about the state’s budget cuts and in many ways are sympathetic to the protesters’ demands.

“The rapidly rising fees give us all heartburn,” said Gibor Basri, the vice chancellor for equity and inclusion at Berkeley, who has met with the protesters several times. “We don’t believe that higher education is a private right but a public good.”

Mr. Basri added: “The problem is that the protesters aren’t one group. We’ve got protesters who want to take the place down, and we have very responsible student leaders and everybody in between. When it gets tangled up with how the university responds, it makes things more complicated.”

Correction: November 21, 2011 An earlier version of this article misspelled the name of the vice chancellor for equity and inclusion at the University of California, Berkeley. His name is Gibor Basri, not Gibor Bafri.
CUNY Students Protesting Tuition Increase Clash With Police

By ALICE SPERI and ANNA M. PHILLIPS

A daylong rally by City University of New York students against a planned tuition increase turned turbulent Monday evening when marchers ignored police requests to clear the lobby of a building where the university’s trustees were meeting and 15 people were arrested.

The students were pushed to the ground and taken away in handcuffs from the lobby of Baruch College, in Manhattan, while protesting a planned tuition increase for the 2012-13 academic year, on which the trustees are to vote next Monday.

Carlos Pazmino, 21, a City College student who helped organize the protest, said that after students began opening lobby doors to the building where the CUNY trustees were holding a public hearing on the 14th floor, CUNY public safety officers surrounded the entrances and pushed back, using their batons. He said that when students formed a line to push past, the officers began hitting the students with the batons.

“I saw two people knocked down by cops,” Mr. Pazmino said. “They were arrested, and one guy’s head was bleeding.”

During the fighting, students on higher floors dropped books down on the police, and captured the scuffle on video. A crowd of 200 to 300 protesters outside beat on the lobby’s windows, also shouting, “Shame.”

Of the 15 arrested by officers with CUNY’s Department of Public Safety, most were issued summonses for disorderly conduct.

According to a statement released Monday night by CUNY, the hearing room was filled, and protesters in the lobby were directed to an overflow room equipped with live video of the hearing. But some refused to go to the room, and instead surged toward turnstiles, where officers and college officials met them.

Some ignored two requests to leave or go to the overflow room, according to the statement, and officers “secured the space and removed the protesters.”

One officer was taken to a hospital with chest pains, and two others received minor injuries, the university said.

The meeting went on as scheduled.
The protest began with a handful of organizers who marched through the cafeteria at City College at lunchtime. The group is demanding the repeal of the tuition increase approved in the summer by the city and the state: $300 a year for five years.

Later in the afternoon, the protest moved to Madison Square Park, where CUNY students from other colleges had agreed to meet. The growing crowd then marched on to Baruch College, at Lexington Avenue and 24th Street.

At Baruch, the campus police restricted access to the hearing to those who had registered, and set up barricades around the building, the William and Anita Newman Vertical Campus Conference Center, in whose lobby the confrontation occurred. At one point, the police told those who had pushed into the lobby, and refused to leave, that they would be arrested for trespassing. The students then sat down, and were pushed to a wall by the campus police.

“We have made it clear to the university that violent response to students who are protesting nonviolently is not acceptable,” said Barbara Bowen, the president of the faculty union, the CUNY Professional Staff Congress, who was in the meeting while the students were being arrested.

At the afternoon protest at Madison Square Park, protesters chanted, “Banks got bailed out, students got sold out.”

A small group of New York University and New School students joined the rally to support CUNY students, apparently part of an unrelated campaign by Occupy Wall Street organizers called Occupy Student Debt. Andrew Ross, an N.Y.U. professor affiliated with that group, said it was aiming to get one million students to pledge that they would not pay back their loans.

But Denise Romero, 19, a junior at Baruch and one of the organizers of Monday’s protest, insisted that the CUNY protest was independent of Occupy Wall Street. “We support them and they support us, but we are not affiliated,” she said.

She added that CUNY students were protesting not only tuition increases but also the university’s push for a public-private partnership. CUNY received $1.4 billion in private philanthropy this year, according to a university spokesman.

“We want more student representation,” said Ms. Romero, who had registered to speak at the hearing Monday.

Elizabeth A. Harris contributed reporting.