Panel recommends tuition hike
By Jackie Drake
The Daily Reflector
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An ECU Trustees committee on Thursday recommended tuition increases of 9.5 percent for resident undergraduates and almost 10 percent for other students in 2012-13.

The full Board of Trustees will review the proposal made by the Finance and Facilities Committee during its meeting Friday. The committee also recommended a $95 fee increase across all student categories.

Trustees at a special luncheon Thursday in Mendenhall Student Center first discussed a staff-recommended increase of 9.3 percent for all students next year. No action was taken on that proposal. The finance committee then tweaked the original recommendations in its meeting following the lunch discussion.

Both recommended options — 9.3 percent and 9.5 — also included incremental increases built in for four to five following years to “catch up” to other universities.
Anything decided today by the trustees must be approved by the University of North Carolina system Board of Governors in the spring and the General Assembly in the summer.

“This is one of the toughest decisions we face all year long,” Chancellor Steve Ballard said at the lunch discussion. “I don’t like to add a single penny to the cost students have to pay.”

The university is “at the tipping point” between affordability and quality, Ballard said, and more funding is needed to keep class sections open and retain qualified professors, who are being lost to other universities.

The 9.5 percent increase would mean a $505 rise in tuition and fees for full-time undergraduate residents, who would be paying $5,822 per year instead of this year’s $5,317. With the 9.9 percent increases, out-of-state undergraduates would pay $1,740 more, in-state graduates would pay $547 more, and out-of-state graduates would pay $1,584 more.

The committee decided to go over the recommended increases “because of concerns over long-term quality implications,” said Trustee Ken Chalk, who made the motion. Significant building maintenance is one of many issues that will need to be addressed in the future, he said.

“I have some concerns about it from the student perspective,” Ballard said of the higher increases after the finance committee meeting. “But I greatly respect the desire of the board in not lowering quality standards.”

Student Government President Josh Martinkovic spoke on behalf of students. “I don’t necessarily like having to do this, but a few extra dollars can have a really big impact on the programs and services that have been doing more with less,” he said.

The 9.3 percent option would translate into a $497 rise in tuition and fees for full-time undergraduate residents, with tuition going up $402 and fees going up $95. If this proposal is approved, those students would pay $5,814 in tuition and fees next year, compared to $5,317 this year.

This year’s tuition is bringing in $9 million more than last year’s, but the state cut the university’s base budget by $49 million or 16 percent, so “we’re
still $40 million short,” according to Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Rick Niswander.

The 9.3 percent recommended increases would yield approximately $11 million from undergraduates and $2.5 million from graduates for a total of $13.5 million in additional revenue. The 9.5 and 9.9 percent increases would generate about a half million more.

A standing state policy caps annual increases at 6.5 percent, but this time around the UNC system Board of Governors is allowing “catch-up” increases for schools that are charging less than comparably sized institutions.

The 9.3 percent increase at ECU breaks down to a $200 or 6 percent annual increase, while the remaining $202 is the first installment of five “catch-up” increases that would be added this year and the next four years. This is also built in to the 9.5 and 9.9 percent options.

The Board of Governors wants schools who opt for “catch-up” increases to spread them out and stay in the bottom quartile of peer institutions, officials said.

Since ECU is charging less than nearly all its peers, it could add up to $1,212 more to tuition over time, according to Niswander.

“This is consistent with staying clearly in the bottom quartile,” Niswander said. Even if no one else raised tuition, ECU would still be in the bottom quartile with these increases, he added.

While reducing inefficiencies is often mentioned as an alternative to increasing costs to students, Niswander said this was not an issue at ECU.

“We’ve been paying close attention to organizational and operational efficiencies for decades,” he said.

In a five-year period, from the fall of 2006 to the fall of 2010, student enrollment went up 14.1 percent, while total employment went up 11.5 percent, according to Niswander.
“So we’re materially less than the student growth in employee growth,” he said. If employee and student growth matched, there would be 130 more staff working, he added.

“We have to continue to try to meet accessibility and affordability tenets that we’ve held for years and years with an undesired but necessary increase (to maintain quality),” Niswander said.

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Successful STEM Training: It's in the Blood

By Kenneth Kitts

To understand why UNC Pembroke is successful in educating and training American Indian students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), turn back the clock to 1970.

Only 40 years ago, health and healthcare in the rural community surrounding the university were mired in the Third World. There was one American Indian doctor and pharmacist in Pembroke, home to the Lumbee, the largest tribe east of the Mississippi, with a current membership of more than 50,000. The American Indian community realized that, in order to improve the quality of life, more healthcare professionals needed to be educated and trained. From that moment, all STEM professions became the focus of an intense and, ultimately, successful pilgrimage.

Today, the university has turned out more than 50 American Indian doctors. Its graduates are successful in medical schools, and East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine reserves two slots a year for UNCP graduates. This year, three American Indian doctors—all female—opened general practices in Pembroke.

The university's remarkable success in graduating students in STEM-related fields is not only in the increasing number of doctors and nurses in that community, but also the number of American Indians who graduate with science degrees in general. A recent national survey of colleges and universities found UNCP ranked third for graduating American Indian students in the biological and biomedical sciences and sixth in health professions. In 2011, 100 percent of UNCP's nursing graduates passed the national licensure examination on their first attempt.

An American Indian's decision to study medicine provides that graduate enviable status. As physicians, they will be among the community's most revered tribal members. This status may explain why approximately half of the American Indian students entering UNCP list medical school as their goal. These students go on to become doctors, nurses, physician's assistants, physical therapists, pharmacists, research scientists, and professors.
From its earliest success as a teachers' college, UNCP decided to expand its STEM offerings to help the community fulfill its need for doctors, engineers, and scientists. As a result, the university began building a strong science faculty and support programs, such as The American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the North Carolina Health Careers Access Program. Undergraduate research programs, internships, and one-on-one advising were established to nurture future doctors at UNCP. The school offers an American Indian Studies Department, a Native Student Organization, a museum dedicated to American Indian culture, and powwows on campus, all in the name of cultivating a campus environment that supports diversity in its student body and attracts strong students, American Indians among them.

That diverse student body begins with UNCP's targeted recruitment of future STEM professionals out of local schools, beginning as early as elementary school. As a result, the number of American Indian students at UNCP has increased to approximately 1,000. At the leadership level, University Chancellor Kyle R. Carter works with the Lumbee Tribal Council to rally its support behind the recruitment program and to improve high school graduation rates. Additionally, Chancellor Carter works with organizations such as the Lumina Foundation for Education and its Minority-Serving Institutions-Models of Success Program, which seeks to increase college completion among first-generation, low-income, and minority students.

Education is revered within the Lumbee; a tribal elder is credited with saying, "It's hard to get education out of our blood, once it gets in." UNCP's effort to build up and support its American Indian student body is paying off. American Indians have better college attendance rates at UNC institutions than all North Carolinians combined, 28.4 vs. 22.3 percent (2008-09). The gap has more than tripled in favor of Indian students since 2004-05. At UNCP, American Indians have a four-year graduation rate 15 percent higher than that of other students. This fact is a stunning turnaround from 1998, when American Indians trailed other students by 22 percent.

Too often, American Indians are pushed aside in the conversation on recruiting and educating minority students. However, at UNCP, we understand the importance this student population plays in our culture and overall academic success. There is much to celebrate during November's Native American Heritage month as the tide of American Indian STEM professionals flowing from UNCP continues to rise.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts is provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He holds a doctorate degree in political science from the University of South Carolina.
Triangle gains few new jobs

BY JOHN MURAWSKI - jmurawski@newsobserver.com

The Triangle jobs picture remained virtually unchanged in October from the previous month as the region's sluggish economy is stuck near its lowest point in nearly two years.

The unemployment rate dipped to 8.7 percent in October from 8.8 percent in September, according to data issued by the N.C. Division of Employment Security and seasonally adjusted by Wells Fargo in Charlotte.

The Triangle's jobless rate is now comparable to what it was in January 2010. Hopes had risen when unemployment began falling last year, dropping as low as 7.6 percent over several months, but the effects have not been not long-lasting.

"We've never really come off the bottom - that's why it still feels like a recession," said James Kleckley, an East Carolina University economist and director of ECU's Bureau of Business Research. "We're moving sideways, pretty much the whole state."

Still, the Triangle remains one of the healthiest job markets in the state, with unemployment well below North Carolina's rate of 10.4 percent in October, and just under the national jobless rate of 9 percent.

About 70,000 people in the Triangle were out of work in October, according to state labor data. Something like normal would be closer to 44,000 unemployed, Wells Fargo economist Mark Vitner said.

The local economy is dragging because core industries that previously had been immune to business cycles - such as government and health care - are shedding jobs or have reduced hiring, Vitner said.

Prospects aren't likely to improve until the national economy makes a breakthrough, lifting the state with it, economists say.

"It's not likely we'll see the pattern changing anytime soon," said John Quinterno, a principal with South by North Strategies, a Chapel Hill policy research group.

According to seasonally adjusted numbers, the Triangle gained 540 jobs in October, mostly in education, health care, professional, business and
government. Those gains were negligible and not enough to bring down the unemployment rate. The region has gained just 2,280 jobs so far this year.

During the recession and for months afterward, economists were predicting a speedy recovery. The early optimism was based largely on previous recessions, which seemed to follow a different set of rules. Now, many economists have downsized their expectations and gotten out of the game of predicting economic turnarounds.

"It's a crazy time," Kleckley said. "I've never seen anything like it."

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The East Carolina University athletic department announced on Thursday that Harry and Tammy Smith of Washington pledged $1 million toward the Step Up To The Highest Level Campaign, designated to raise funds for the construction of a basketball practice facility at ECU.

“We are all about the Pirates,” Harry Smith said. “We are excited about the vision that (chancellor) Dr. (Steve) Ballard and (director of athletics) Terry Holland have for ECU and we are fortunate that we are able to be a partner. We understand that what’s good for ECU is good for the local economy and we wanted to give back.”

Smith — a 1992 ECU graduate — is the chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Flanders Corp., one of the largest manufacturers of air filters and related products in the United States.

According to Holland, the donation will help further the university’s large-scale renovation and upgrade project on all of its athletic fields and stadiums.

“Harry and Tammy Smith have taken the Step Up To The Highest Level Campaign as a challenge to move this project and our athletics program forward,” Holland said. “Their generosity should inspire us all at this important time in our athletic history.”
Construction on the two-story, 48,000-square foot facility is expected to begin this spring.

It will include separate practice courts for the men’s and women’s teams along with separate office suites, locker rooms and meeting rooms.

The facility will also house the ECU Athletics Hall Of Fame and Pirate memorabilia from seasons past.

The Smiths’ donation was inspired, at least to some extent, by second-year ECU head men’s basketball coach Jeff Lebo.

“Jeff is a friend and he will do great things,” Harry Smith said. “He is a phenomenal coach with great leadership and a great vision for the basketball program.”

— ECU Media Relations
Michael Ryan, left, and Brittni Genovese practice on Wednesday for the upcoming ENCORE! A Scholarship gala Revue fundraiser, put on by ECU's School of Theatre and Dance for Saturday Dec. 3rd. Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011. (Aileen Devlin/The Daily Reflector)

**Event supports dance, theater students**

By Lynsey Horn  
The Daily Reflector  
Friday, December 2, 2011

East Carolina University’s own young rising stars will dominate the stage Saturday night as the School of Theatre and Dance holds its annual scholarship fundraiser.

The event, named “Encore! The Night of Rising Stars,” is a variety show featuring Broadway tunes, children’s theatre, jazz, ballet and tap dance — all performed by ECU students.

“The students are a part of the evolution of what we’re doing,” said Michael Tahaney, Musical Theatre Program Coordinator. “The students really take a lot of initiative and ownership to help us put this on. The students own it as much as we do.”

The show consists of 11 individual pieces ranging in style from contemporary to classic style. Some of the pieces were selected from class projects and others were taken from previous productions. The show will start with a scene from “The Stinky Cheese Man” which is a part of the children’s theatre series. The show will also include five pieces staged by Tahaney and five pieces choreographed by the dance faculty.
The final piece “Who Loves You Medley” from the musical “The Jersey Boys” was produced by senior musical theater and professional acting major Zak Schwartz, under Tahaney’s direction.

“It’s been strange because I’ve had to do everything,” Schwartz said. “It’s the first time I’ve had to deal with every angle; directing, performing, choreographing, getting the band people together, rehearsing, putting times together, being a stage manager. It’s been a little stressful but it’s been mostly fun.”

Musical theatre major Tyler Griffin is playing piano for “Who Loves You Medley” and serves as a student musical director for this and other productions.

“I sort of just do everything I guess,” he said.

Griffin plans to move to Cary and finish writing a musical after he graduates in December. He has been in contact with Michael Rupert, veteran Broadway actor and director, to help get his musical out there. Griffin is a scholarship recipient like many of the students in the show.

“It’s kind of their way of saying thanks for what they’ve received,” said Jeff Woodruff, managing director of the School of Theatre and Dance.

Two scholarship recipients will give testimonials during the show about what it means to them to receive a scholarship, their background and their aspirations.

The event begins at 8 p.m. Saturday in McGinnis Theatre. Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be available in the Burnette Studio Theatre at 6:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased for $35 at the McGinnis Theatre box office, the central ticket office in Mendenhall Student Center or through ECUARTS.com.

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The Preservation Hall Jazz Band will bring its Creole sounds to a holiday concert at 8 p.m. today at East Carolina University’s Wright Auditorium. The concert is part of the 50th anniversary of ECU’s S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band took its name from Preservation Hall, the venerable music venue located in the heart of New Orleans’ French Quarter.

Founded in 1961 by Allan and Sandra Jaffe, the band has traveled worldwide spreading its mission to nurture and perpetuate New Orleans Jazz as an art form. Whether performing at Carnegie Hall or Lincoln Center, for British Royalty or the King of Thailand, their music embodies a joyful, timeless spirit.

The building that houses Preservation Hall was the location of many businesses over the years including a tavern during the war of 1812, a photo studio and an art gallery.
It was during the years of the art gallery that then owner, Larry Borenstein, began holding informal jam sessions for his close friends. Out of these sessions grew the concept of Preservation Hall.

The Preservation Hall Jazz Band began touring in 1963 and for many years there were several bands successfully touring under the name Preservation Hall.

Charter members performed with the pioneers who invented jazz in the early 20th century including Buddy Bolden, Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and Bunk Johnson.
Brenda Boberg, left, executive director of the Family Support Network of Eastern Carolina, leads UNC student Sarah Marsh, Colin Nitzpon and Ansgar Opitz, exchange students from Germany, on a tour of the Festival of Trees at the Pitt County Convention Center on Wednesday afternoon.

(Rhett Butler)

**Festival of Trees greets visitors**

*By Kelley Kirk*

The Daily Reflector

Friday, December 2, 2011

The Greenville Convention Center is shining bright with an array of Christmas trees decorated in the holiday spirit.

The Family Support Network of Eastern North Carolina continues its annual tradition with the 16th annual Festival of Trees at the Greenville Convention Center, 303 S.W. Greenville Blvd., through Dec. 22.

The Festival of Trees is the organization’s main fundraiser.

“This year, if we could raise $35,000, we would be really happy,” said the network’s Executive Director Brenda Boberg.

The Family Support Network is a private nonprofit corporation designed to provide emotional support and resource information to parents and families of children with special developmental, physical or medical needs, or who have experienced the death of a child.

Individuals and local businesses pay a fee to sponsor a tree, which is then decorated in any style they wish.
Money raised through the festival is distributed in a variety of ways through Pitt County School grants, the Angel Boberg-Webb Memorial Scholarship, in memory of Boberg’s daughter, and a $1,000 scholarship for a Pitt Community College student with special needs, just to name a few.

This year’s display includes more than 80 trees.

“I haven’t counted them because trees keep showing up,” Boberg said.

The festive display is open to the public at the Convention Center for anyone who wishes to have a look.

A preview party will be held at 6:30 p.m. today and will include hors d’oeuvres and a live and silent auction. A story time with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be held at 9 a.m. Dec. 10. Space is limited and reservations are required.

“We try to limit it to 55 families. That may be more than 100 kids,” Boberg said.

After “The Night Before Christmas” is read, the children will line up for a photo with Santa, taken by Dwayne Frutiguer, a professional photographer and owner of ASAP Photo & Camera.

“We have lots of wonderful people who volunteer their time,” Boberg said. Boberg said there are numerous organizations and people who repeatedly sponsor a tree for the event.

There are some new participants this year, including a memorial tree for Riley Philpott and Bill and Wanita Chapman.

Philpott passed away after a battle with cancer earlier this year and the Chapmans were avid supporters of the Family Support Network for many years.

Other new participants include East Carolina University Division of Pediatric Surgery, neonatologist Dr. Sharon Buckwald, Next Media, NAACO, Granite Designs, the Dora Lena Previll tree and Eastern North Carolina Chapter of Jack and Jill of America.
“ENC Jack and Jill of America is an organization of African American parents that are teaching their children to give back to their community through volunteerism. Their tree is absolutely gorgeous,” Boberg said.
From Eve

Eve Carson, the much-admired president of the student body at UNC-Chapel Hill, has a scholarship and other tangible memories in her honor at her alma mater, established after her gruesome murder in 2008. But her legacy may prove even more profound: A seriously flawed probation system (Carson's accused killers were both on probation and had not been watched closely) is now much improved. Lives will undoubtedly be saved as a result.

In the wake of Carson's murder in early March, 2008, and the shooting death of a Duke University graduate student some months earlier, the probation system was shown to be a mess. Technology, crucial in keeping track of people, was woefully outdated, turnover in the probation office was high and job vacancies were such that probation officers had to carry ridiculously heavy workloads.

A News & Observer series in December of 2008 exposed a system in crisis. Probationers were committing serious crimes.

As a result, many time bombs, like Carson's alleged assailants, Laurence Alvin Lovette and DeMario Atwater, were ticking. Atwater, who pleaded guilty to federal charges, is doing life; Lovette is now on trial and pleading not guilty. Lovette also is charged in the killing of Duke student Abhijit Mahato.

While increased investment in the probation system - which comes into play after someone is convicted - represents the answer to an obvious need, the state could do as well in also investing more on the front end, namely in crime prevention. That's seldom a compelling cause to take before lawmakers, because it does not have an immediate tangible result such as a roadway or jobs from a new business.

But what if the state made more of an effort to prevent young people from falling into crime and then becoming, in too many cases for life, wards of the state and the taxpayers in increasing numbers of prisons?

This would mean working with those in high-crime neighborhoods, where too many young people see what's going on outside their own doors and
some inevitably choose that life because they believe it promises easy money, flash and status.

In Raleigh, and in other cities in North Carolina, there are indeed community activists trying to do something with sports activities, counseling for parents. Local and state officials must encourage and invest in this.

And let's be clear. This isn't about some warm and fuzzy feel-good movement. Society has practical reasons for putting time and money into prevention. Keeping someone in custody can go around $30,000 a year, and that's probably low.

Maintaining a sound probation system is a fraction of that, figured per-person. And prevention, never having someone fall into the prison or probation system, is likely to be even less.

Let us hope that the improved system of supervision within the probation system will itself be a preventative step, that good officers can help their clients avoid returning to the path of crime. But best of all would be to see that young people never found that route in the first place.
Duke's aims in China upheld

Faculty backs degree program

BY JANE STANCILL - jstancill@newsobserver.com

DURHAM Duke University's controversial campus in China took a big leap forward Thursday with a crucial faculty vote, though the future of the venture is far from certain.

The approval of one business degree Thursday represented both a turning point and a scaled down version of what originally was proposed for the start of Duke Kunshan University, a campus under construction near Shanghai.

Duke's Academic Council voted 44-8, with four professors abstaining, to approve a master's of management studies degree to be offered by the university's Fuqua School of Business. It would be a three-year pilot program that would be re-evaluated after a couple of years, and the students will spend part of their time studying in China and part of their time at the Durham campus. The degree program must still be endorsed by Duke's Board of Trustees. China's Ministry of Education is expected to sign off soon on Duke's application to operate there.
The project has been the subject of heated debate at Duke for months, with faculty raising questions about risks to the university's bottom line and its culture of academic freedom.

Duke administrators were quizzed Thursday by some skeptical professors, who worry that Duke will be reluctant or unable to protect the freedoms of Duke professors and students in a country with an authoritarian government.

Duke's leaders have said their agreements with Chinese partners specify an exit clause if the university encounters problems. They also point out that the business degree will be a Duke University degree, with Duke in full control of admissions, operations and academics, though the Chinese will have some say about tuition to be charged.

"When we go to China, we don't intend to leave our principles at home," Duke President Richard Brodhead said, "nor do we expect that in China, the environment in which we operate will be identical to the one here."

Critics have cited a recent Bloomberg news story about a Johns Hopkins joint campus with a Chinese university, where an American student was unable to distribute an academic journal outside of the classroom, where academic freedom was guaranteed. The article also quoted the presidents of Columbia and Stanford universities, who said they had avoided launching full-fledged campuses in China because of concerns about free expression in the country.

Others have worried about Duke's costs for the venture. A planning document in March showed that Duke expects to spend $37 million over six years. Some of the money will come from private gifts, but the rest will come from strategic funds at Duke that also could be spent at the Durham campus.

**Far from Durham**

Several faculty said Thursday that Duke should not devote such money to a venture away from the Durham campus, which has seen budget cuts in the down economy.

Building a campus is entirely too risky and the costs extraordinary for one or two small degree programs, said Thomas Pfau, a professor of English and German. He made the point that Duke Kunshan University is not a university at all because it won't have the ability to grant its own degrees. "It is perhaps the world's most expensive study-abroad program," Pfau said.
Duke is not paying for the construction, which is being borne entirely by the city of Kunshan. The six buildings would cost $260 million in the United States, Duke officials have said. Duke Provost Peter Lange said Thursday: "We are renters of these buildings without being charged rent for 12 years."

Herbert Kitschelt, a professor of political science, cautioned the council against approving the first degree program. "You make a decision, you make another small decision, you make a third decision, and all of a sudden you find yourself in an irreversible situation," he said. "If you make this step, this is taking a very giant move in the direction of approving the entire package."

**Success not guaranteed**

In June, the Fuqua faculty put off a decision on two degrees for China, citing concerns about the market demand and whether Chinese students would pay Duke's premium tuition prices. The master's degree approved Thursday, with operations in both Durham and Kunshan, was a compromise.

In describing it to faculty in November, Fuqua Dean William Boulding said the downsized program would minimize the risk to Duke. "I think it will be successful," he said. "I'm just not going to guarantee it."

Other degree programs are in the planning stages, including a master's degree and an undergraduate program in global health. Those are being reviewed by various campus committees.

Pfau urged Brodhead and Lange to return their focus to Duke in Durham, rather than Duke in Kunshan.

Brodhead said Duke can gain unique value by teaching and learning in China, rather than disengaging from an important global player.

"The campus at Durham is Duke; its well-being is at the heart of every success this university will have," he said. "This university has advanced itself partly by being willing to try new things, to engage."

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**The story so far**

Duke University plans a campus on 200 acres in Kunshan, a city in the Yangtze River Delta about 37 miles from Shanghai. When the six-building campus opens, perhaps next year, Duke faculty will teach Chinese and international students in English there.
Duke Kunshan University has been on the drawing board for a couple of years. This year, controversy grew as faculty in Durham raised questions about whether the Kunshan campus would be a financial drain on Duke. Vocal detractors worried about academic freedom in a country where citizens aren’t allowed full access to the Internet. Some professors complained also that the administration’s planning process had not been transparent.

University leaders have taken steps to ease faculty concerns. They formed a China Faculty Council, about 20 faculty who study China and will advise the administration on the Kunshan project.

Duke also brought in William Kirby, a former dean at Harvard University and a scholar of Chinese higher education, as a senior adviser on the project.
Florida A&M University has dismissed four students amid growing pressure from top state education officials and the governor’s office over an alleged hazing incident that led to the death of a 26-year-old drum major.

The expulsions come after the university’s famed Marching 100 band was suspended and its director asked to resign over Robert Champion’s death last month on a bus in Orlando. The latest moves by President James Ammons appear to be the first severe anti-hazing disciplinary actions implemented by a FAMU leader against the band, despite a decades-long trail of hazing allegations.

"I want to report that four (4) students have been dismissed from the university in connection to the Robert Champion incident," Ammons wrote in the memo to the board of trustees.

The memo did not mention the names of the four students or how they are connected to Champion’s death.

Champion died on Nov. 19, after the Florida Classic game between
FAMU and Bethune-Cookman College. A 911 call, released Thursday, shows that panicked band members tried to revive Champion after he collapsed on the bus and vomited. Authorities have said hazing was involved.

Champion’s death, which has drawn national attention, is the latest in a string of hazing-related incidents involving FAMU’s marching band.

In 2001, trumpet player Marcus Parker won a $1.8 million lawsuit against other band members, after being paddled severely during a hazing ritual and suffering renal failure.

“They had a hazing that started on a practice field. Then they took him to an apartment off campus and did the hazing,” said David Frank, a Tallahassee attorney who represented Parker. “Ten years later, it’s still happening.”

Dr. Julian White, the band director who is fighting the university’s efforts to terminate him, released more than 150 pages of documents showing that he has dismissed dozens of band members in the past decade because they violated the band’ “zero-tolerance” hazing policy.

“Inside of the band, that was not tolerated and Dr. White was the authority against all hazing,” said Lawrence Hilson, who played saxophone for the band in the early 1990s. “But you have people going outside of the band creating their own little cultures, their own little organizations, and doing hazing outside of the band.”

Thursday, Gov. Rick Scott asked all 11 state universities to review their anti-hazing policies and penalties. The governor has also asked the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to investigate Champion’s death. The Florida Board of Governors, which sets education policy at state universities, is conducting an investigation into the university’s institutional controls.

According to the 911 tape, band members tried to revive Champion using CPR before the ambulance arrived.

“We have a band member on the bus, and he’s not breathing. I tried to give him CPR and he started to vomit,” a caller told the 911 dispatch. “He’s in my hands, ma’am. He’s cold.”
Penn State to donate $1.5 million to help sex-abuse victims

Penn State University, still coping with the fallout from a sex-abuse scandal involving a former football coach, will divert $1.5 million from its athletics programs and donate it to groups that help victims of sexual violence, the university announced Thursday.

The planned donation to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center is part of the school’s response to the scandal involving former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky, who has been charged with sexually abusing eight boys over a 15-year period.

Head coach Joe Paterno and the university's president were forced to leave last month because of the scandal.

In announcing the commitment to donate the funds, the school said the money would come from Penn State’s share of this year Big Ten bowl revenues.

“As a university and as people within a caring community we believe it is essential to take a deeper look at the core issue of child sexual abuse and to openly acknowledge the scope of the problem,” Penn State's new president, Rodney Erickson, said in the announcement.

"Our own experience shows that child sexual abuse greatly impacts individuals and entire communities," Erickson said. "It is now our responsibility to assist in raising awareness and in helping fight this insidious and often secret crime. We hope that our partnership will help break the silence that surrounds child sexual abuse and lead to better protection of our children."

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, based in Enola, Pa., is a nationally recognized leader in the field of sexual assault response and prevention. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognized the group’s expertise in 1999 by awarding it the contract for a new National Sexual Violence Resource Center, the nation's main information center on sexual violence. The coalition won the nationally competitive cooperative agreement again in 2004 and 2009, the university said.
“I am pleased that Penn State wants to establish a partnership with PCAR to utilize our knowledge, experience and resources,” said Delilah Rumburg, chief executive of the coalition and the resource center, in the announcement. “It shows strength to take a tragic situation and turn it into an opportunity to grow and learn.”

University president Erickson also urged the Penn State community to support existing efforts to raise funds for the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, a counseling and crisis hotline.

Erickson has increased the university’s visibility on the issue since Sandusky was charged on Nov. 5, the day the scandal broke. On Wednesday night, Erickson appeared at a forum at the university's student union building and pledged to raise ethical standards so that anyone who witnesses abuse would know the morally correct response, not just the legally required action.

According to the grand jury in the Sandusky case, an assistant coach said he saw Sandusky raping a young boy in the school’s showers in 2002 and told Paterno, the head coach. Paterno then passed the information on to other university officials.

The boy was associated with a charitable group founded by Sandusky, who was known to bring children to the campus. Sandusky has denied the molestation charges though he has admitted showering with the child.

The grand jury said the allegations against Sandusky were not immediately brought to the attention of authorities.

The scandal and its fallout has led not only to the ouster of Paterno but also President Graham Spanier, who was forced to leave by the board of trustees. Athletic Director Tim Curley has been placed on administrative leave, and Vice President Gary Schultz, who was in charge of the university's police department, has stepped down. Schultz and Curley are charged with lying to the grand jury and failure to report to police.

Meanwhile, the first civil suit in the scandal has been filed. A plaintiff identified only as John Doe, now 29, alleges that at age 10 he was assaulted by Sandusky. The lawsuit, filed Wednesday, names as defendants Sandusky, the charity he was associated with and Penn State.

The plaintiff is not part of the criminal case against Sandusky.
Colleges' latest thrust in learning: Video games
By Mary Beth Marklein, USA TODAY
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At some point, engineering professor Brianno Coller realized he didn't like slogging through dry math problems as an instructor any more than he had as a student. So he thought about what could liven things up — animation! interactivity! — and it hit him: video games.

He designed one, and now his third-year students at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb build virtual race cars, complete with roaring engines and screeching tires, that must maneuver an increasingly challenging course. Along the way, they're exposed to computational math, a basic building block of engineering.

"I use games to, in some sense, throw away the textbook," says Coller, 42, who played Lunar Lander and other video games as a kid. "My philosophy is that learning can be a burdensome chore or it can be an interesting journey."

Around the country, pockets of faculty have been adding games to their courses as a way to stimulate learning. At Boston College, nursing students conduct forensics at a virtual crime scene. At the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a game called Melody Mixer teaches students how to read and compose music. Students at Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pa., play World of Warcraft, a multiplayer online game, in a course on intelligence studies.

"The key driver is the need for ways to make learning more engaging," says Larry Johnson, CEO of the non-profit New Media Consortium and co-author of a report this year that predicts an explosion of game-based learning in higher education within three years. "Games can open that door for many students."

Game-based learning, which has been riding a wave of popularity in recent years, got a boost last November when it was touted as part of the U.S. Education Department's new national technology plan. But most national initiatives focus on elementary and high schools. Retired Supreme Court
justice Sandra Day O'Connor encourages teachers of kids in grades 5-12 to participate in *iCivics*, a Web-based game. In the past two years, big-name donors such as the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have lent their support to public schools in New York and Chicago that are designed around the concept of games as a learning tool.

Johnson credits changing demographics with pushing what are sometimes called "serious games" into the college curriculum. A Kaiser Family Foundation study in 2010 found that 60% of kids ages 8-18 play video games daily, averaging about two hours. Nearly a decade ago, a 2003 report involving 27 colleges by the Pew Research Center found that 65% of 1,162 students surveyed reported playing video and online games regularly.

Although a number of factors contribute to the growth of games for learning in higher education today, Johnson says, "at the top of the list is the pervasive experience with games among not only students but, increasingly, faculty."

Not everyone goes high-tech. At Mercyhurst, intelligence studies professor Kristan Wheaton also uses the board game *Clue*. To help students grasp the psychological and economic impact of the Black Death, University of New Haven lecturer Matt Wranovix created a card game in which students left holding a Joker fall victim to the plague. And there is no software to download to play *Reacting to the Past*, a role-playing game developed a decade ago by Barnard College history professor Mark Carnes. The game, which has spread to more than 300 campuses in the past few years, relies mostly on classic texts and, sometimes, homemade costumes.

As a form of entertainment, video games on campus sometimes get a bad rap. A 2008 survey of 813 undergraduates on six campuses led by Brigham Young University professor Laura Padilla-Walker found a correlation between playing video games for fun and risky behaviors. A study published in *CyberPsychology & Behavior* in 2007 suggests excessive use of video games could hurt a student's academic performance.

Other studies find that games may improve classroom learning. Coller's research, supported by the National Science Foundation, found that students using his video games spent roughly twice as much time doing homework and demonstrated deeper learning compared with students who learned
through traditional lectures and textbook. "I got kind of addicted to it, like I would other games," engineering major Alex Raz, 25, says of a game created by Coller called Spumone. "It's like really learning, not like just going through the motions on paper."

University of Southern California education professor Richard Clark remains skeptical. "There is no compelling evidence that serious games lead to greater motivation to learn than other instructional programs," he says. Better, he says, to teach the concept, then let students practice in a game-like environment.

Wheaton, too, cautions against overselling the value of games. "There's a lot of promise there," he says. "But right now the hype meter is pretty high."
At first blush, it looks as though M.B.A.s aren't doing much "good" upon graduation.

Despite the fact that students sign up en masse for social-entrepreneurship classes, intern at nonprofits and participate in charitable extracurricular activities, fewer than 5% of graduates from many top business schools take jobs in nonprofit organizations right out of school, with some institutions placing just 1% or 2% in the field. Even the Yale School of Management, which has built a reputation for creating nonprofit managers, sent just 9% of its class into that sector this year.

But these days, the numbers don't tell the whole story. Schools say that plenty of students are going on to do good works, just not in traditional nonprofit jobs. Instead, many students opt for social-responsibility positions at Fortune 500 companies or working at for-profit enterprises that explicitly address energy-access or economic-development issues.
The reasons are many. For one thing, most traditional nonprofits don't offer the financial security that finance or consulting jobs can provide, with nonprofits commonly offering starting salaries as much as 30% below those of their for-profit counterparts. Nor, say students, do they provide as clear a career path. Some also feel they might be able to make more of a difference at a bigger organization.

"The boundaries between the sectors are getting increasingly blurry," says Laura Moon, director of Harvard Business School's Social Enterprise Initiative. Though 3% of 2011 graduates accepted jobs in the nonprofit and government sectors, Ms. Moon says others are pursuing private-sector jobs that address global poverty, supply-chain issues and environmental or sustainability concerns, or other social needs.

Pamela Hartigan, director of the Skoll Center for Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University's Said Business School, agrees. "The dichotomy between the non- and for-profit sectors is going away." While more students probably would like to go into traditional nonprofits, says Ms. Hartigan, it's hard for them "to follow their hearts when their wallets are empty."

Alla Jezmir, a 2009 graduate from Harvard's business school and the John F. Kennedy School of Government, feels she is serving a social purpose even if her job title doesn't say so. Ms. Jezmir, 31, is a business development associate at energy company AES Corp., determining the viability of, and arranging financing for, power-generation projects in Latin America.

"Providing energy to communities that otherwise wouldn't have it, and doing it sustainably and affordably, there's inevitably social impact," she says. Ms. Jezmir also co-founded EGG-energy Inc., a for-profit company that provides battery-based electricity in developing countries.

Ms. Jezmir says she was drawn to AES in part for its "ethos" of sustainable business practices, but the paycheck didn't hurt, either. Though scholarships paid for her tuition, she still had loans that covered living expenses. "I wanted to build up some savings," she says.

Ms. Jezmir is not alone. Money is a big factor in many business-school graduates' job choices, especially for those with student loans. (More than two-thirds of M.B.A.s graduated with loans in 2008, the latest year available, with cumulative undergraduate and graduate debt totaling
$41,676, according to Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of financial-aid website FinAid.org.)

And while a number of schools offer loan-repayment assistance for graduates who choose nonprofit or public-sector careers, that doesn't always cover the gap.

"Even making $80,000 can be difficult if one has taken on student-loan debt," says Ivan Kerbel, director of career services at Yale School of Management. Nine percent of students from Yale's class of 2011 entered non-profit jobs, with an average salary of just below $80,000, while the average starting salary for consulting jobs—where 23% of the class landed—topped $120,000.

Some business-school students also shy away from non-profits because they can't see where their careers will end up years down the line. "Within the social sector, \[career\] pathways are much more ambiguous," says Ms. Moon of Harvard. While graduates who take positions in consulting firms or banks have a clear trajectory for moving from associate to principal to managing director or partner, the line is often fuzzier at nonprofits and upward movement often requires outside professional development and networking. It can also be difficult to move between non-profit to for-profit sectors.

Ed Smith, a 2011 graduate from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, worried the career path at a non-profit would be too defined— and not in a good way. Mainly, he feared being pigeonholed in the nonprofit arena. Instead of returning to his previous employer, a nonprofit consultancy, he took a position with a large for-profit consulting firm.

Many socially-minded business-school graduates also feel they can have a greater impact by signing up with large, multinational companies than they may have at organizations with smaller budgets.

The corporate sector "provides an ability to leverage economies of scale," says Maury Zimring, a 2009 graduate from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business, who works in corporate social responsibility at InterContinental Hotel Groups. She recently moved there from Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc., where she focused on energy use and
waste in the company's supply chain. "Even minor changes within an organization can have a monumental impact," she says.

Meanwhile, some students just take a detour in the corporate world before moving to more traditional nonprofits. Stephanie Nelson, for example, a 2007 graduate of Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, wanted to learn more about organizational behavior and human capital before choosing a single social issue to which she could apply her skills. Ms. Nelson, 32, spent three years at Deloitte Consulting LLP before taking a job as director of recruitment at Uncommon Schools, a nonprofit organization that manages a network of charter schools.

Ms. Nelson took a 25% pay cut when she changed jobs, but she still earns a healthy salary. "There are some days when I think I still spend money like I'm a consultant, and I need to remind myself that I'm not a consultant anymore."

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