Graduation location moved, mixed reactions

By Kelly Mayo
Assistant News Editor

Tough budget choices emphasized at forum

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

March 31, 2011

Volume 66, Issue No. 5

Inside

Tough budget choices emphasized at forum

By Kelly Mayo
Assistant News Editor

Decisions concerning the budget will not be easy but are for the good of the university, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Acad- emic Affairs Dr. William Gash said at an open forum in the UC Annex March 18.

Open forum Dr. Gash told an audi-ence of about 75 that the budget advisory committee needed to “input from all the...departments and divi-sions of the university” during the six to seven-month planning process.

Dr. Gash want over the guidelines the committee used in the decision process in a PowerPoint presenta-tion. The guidelines in-cluded:

• Eliminating and/or con-solidating programs or or-ganizational structures.
• Cross-to-UNCP personnel to match peaks and valleys in work loads.
• Reducing or consolidating events so that money not received from the state can be used for more essen-tial purposes.

Budget cuts Although budget cuts are necessary, Dr. Gash said the last possibility to be considered was cuts to op-erational and travel funds. “We will all eventually need to travel,” Dr. Gash said.

Dr. Gash also said that maintaining student support and contact with important constituents in the commu-nity is imperative to UNCP.

Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs R. Neil Hawk showed the audience what UNCP’s financial sit-uation looked like for next year.

They included $1.8 mil-lion in new revenue from tuition and other fees and $170,000 in additional auxil- iary overhead fees. This added money would reduce the amount cut from the budget to $4.27 million. According to the Pow-erPoint, the budget cuts would cross a variety of areas.

• The Division of Busi-ness Affairs, for example, would take an $850,000 cut in its budget.
• The Division of Student Affairs would see its fund-ing cut by $230,000.

• The Division of Aca-demic Affairs would be hit the hardest, with a revenue cut of $4.26 million, or nearly 60 percent.

Hawk also talked about how the cutting of positions would be organized. From the May 1 reductions were cut last fiscal year. More than 52 mostly un-filled positions would be cut under the current plan.

Faculty’s ideas The audience consisted mostly of professors, ad-ministrators and staff, including Chancellor Kyle R. Carter and staff members from the Interim Provost Library and the Career Cen-ter.

After Hawk finished sharing the PowerPoint, he invited attendees to come up to one of the two micro-phones in the center aisle and share their opinions about the proposed budget.