



# The Midnight Oil

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## TMO TEAM

- Matthew Haynes**  
Soil Science
- Trisha Biswas**  
Computer Science
- Alina Higham**  
Chemical Engineering
- Jessica Jenkins**  
Chemical Engineering

Please send your comments and suggestions to [Ugsa\\_publicity@listsncsu.edu](mailto:Ugsa_publicity@listsncsu.edu)



## Winds of Change



Ali Kefeli  
UGSA President

You all are probably aware of our widely acclaimed services and events. Your UGSA provides rebates to more than 40 departments who have representatives and chapters in good standing. We also provide travel and thesis funds to those who travel to conferences and need help with thesis/dissertation printing expenses. We cooperate with Graduate School to host events such as our continuously growing capstone event Annual Research Symposium, Teaching Assistantship Awards and Professional Development Seminars. Our internal committees also work to organize social and community service events and publish this magazine among

other internal functions.

What I really want to emphasize isn't what we are already doing, and actually doing pretty effectively. Rather, here is a piece of wind of change this executive board has brought to UGSA through hard work and effort.

This year, we are determined to bring a long-due solution to communication issue. We created a brand new, simpler and cleaner web site ([ugsa.ncsu.edu](http://ugsa.ncsu.edu)). We have worked hard to make information organized and easily accessible. What's more, we completed the groundwork for "PawPrints", the first e-Newsletter for NCSU graduate students. With more than 6500 students already subscribed, PawPrints will put an end to our old and impractical notification system.

Another new development is the reinstatement of our long-forgotten membership with National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS). I believe that presence of NC State among our peers in such a national organization is a matter of awareness of national events/trends as well as a matter of prestige and repute. In November 2009, VP External, William Lahti

has attended NAGPS annual meeting in University of Nebraska-Lincoln and greatly represented NC State and gathered invaluable information.

Not at least but at last, UGSA and graduate students are a voice in the wind of change NC State is going through recently with the search of a new chancellor. I am one of the two student representatives in chancellor search committee and strive to bring the interests of graduate students and graduate education to the table.

This is not all. We have other great plans for Spring 2010 (does "PhD comics" ring a bell?). We meet last Monday of every month at 7PM in the Faculty Senate Chambers in D.H. Hill Library. Come see what we do, help us do it better. Become a force in the wind of change!

P.S. Subscribe to PawPrints by sending a message to [mj2@lists.ncsu.edu](mailto:mj2@lists.ncsu.edu) with the body "subscribe ugsa-news"



# Rally for Talley: The Final Result

The proposed increases have been approved by the NCSU Board of Trustees. The decision is now in the hands of the UNC Board of Governors. The fees they approve must be approved

by the state government prior to implementation. The largest increase is the fee to fund the renovation of the Atrium Dining Hall and what is essentially the rebuilding of the Talley Student

Center. The fee, as proposed, for next year is \$83. It will climb over the next 4 years to a final level not to exceed \$290 per year.

William Lahti  
VP External



## Holiday Gift Ideas

For the Budget-Conscious Grad Student

www.phdcomics.com  
JORGE CHAM © 2006

Recycle old lab equipment

it's a what?  
a multi-channel laser spectography tissue analyzer!



Put that English degree to good use

a collection of your poems.  
again.  
how thoughtful.



Give the gift of Science

it's alkali hydrolyzed sodium tallowate.  
uh...  
i made you soap.



Let them know you care.

"another year of free computer tech support."  
you're welcome.



For more true-to-life comics, visit [www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)

## Deals and Steals

### Entertainment

- Trivia Night at the Flying Saucer on Tuesdays  
General Trivia starts at 7 followed by Sex Trivia at 9
- Trivia Night at Sammy's Tap and Grill on Wednesdays
- Canes College Nights  
\$30/\$15 for lower/upper levels; visit <http://hurricanes.nhl.com/club/page.htm?id=51889> for more information
- Ticket discount with student ID at Regal Crossroads 20 in Cary



### Food

- \$3 "Love It" at ColdStone Creamery in Crossroads with student ID after 7 PM on Sundays
- Various deals and steals at Moe's Southwest Grill in Crossroads
- Discount with student ID at Burger King in Mission Valley
- Student Meal at Zaxby's with student ID on Hillsborough Street
- Advantage cards at grocery stores (MVP at Food Lion, VIC at Harris Teeter, etc.)

### Miscellaneous

- Discount with student ID at J. Crew in Crabtree Valley Mall
- Free bus rides  
<http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/trans/transportation/wolfline/> for more information

Poor Graduate Students



## Collaborations beyond the Bell Tower

During November, I attended the national conference of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS). The group works to advocate for graduate students across the country. Their methods include lobbying the federal government every year. At the

conference, I had the chance to see how other graduate student associations have worked for their constituents. Among the

undertakings were a comprehensive survey to learn student issues, cost-of-living studies for the purpose of advocating for TA/RA salaries, and advocating for their rights.

William Lahti  
VP External



**“Graduate and professional students deserve recognition and support as a unique population within the university. NAGPS strives to continue as the umbrella organization representing all the graduate and professional students in the country.”**

## Traditions and History Trivia



- What is the original name of North Carolina State University?
  - North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts
  - University of North Carolina at Raleigh
  - North Carolina State College
  - North Carolina Military Institution
- In what year did the NCSU student newspaper, the Technician, begin publication?
  - 1889
  - 1895
  - 1920
  - 1953
- When was the first NCSU football game?
  - September 3, 1905
  - August 27, 1889
  - April 4, 1912
  - March 12, 1892
- In what year did the first African American student enroll?
  - 1899
  - 1956
  - 1922
  - 1966
- How much was annual tuition in 1889?
  - 130 dollars
  - 500 dollars
  - 45 dollars
  - 2000 dollars
- What building on campus served as the first gymnasium?
  - Peele Hall
  - Brooks Hall
  - Tompkins Hall
  - Thompson Center
- In 1941, who became the first woman to graduate with an Engineering degree?
  - Gertrude Cox
  - Katherine Stinson
  - Lori Tompkins
  - Jennifer Patterson
- What is the name of NCSU's student year-book?
  - Retrospectus
  - The Wolves Den
  - A Stately Affair
  - Agromeck
- What building originally served as the campus infirmary?
  - The Alumni Building
  - Primrose Hall
  - Leazar Hall
  - Watauga Hall
- The first Ph.D. was awarded in which discipline?
  - English
  - Sociology
  - Engineering
  - Agricultural Sciences

Created by the Office of New Student Orientation Division of Undergraduate Affairs

## Holiday Fun Around Raleigh

### Christmas 2009

Performed in the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts (PECPA) Memorial Auditorium in Downtown Raleigh. 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "A Christmas Carol"  
December 8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Prices range from \$21 - \$77

### Ira David Wood III Pullen Park Theatre (Theatre In The Park)

"A Christmas Memory"  
December 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Tickets range from \$12 - \$14



### New Years 2009

NEW YEARS EVE  
PLANS...Downtown Raleigh Style!  
Wednesday, December 31  
Come watch the giant acorn drop this year in Downtown Raleigh.  
[www.downtownraleigh.com/event/?id=6211](http://www.downtownraleigh.com/event/?id=6211)