The Russians came to Carolina last week, marking a first both for Carolina and for Russia’s renowned Bolshoi Ballet. As part of its three-city U.S. tour, the Bolshoi, one of the world’s premier dance companies, performed in Chapel Hill for the first time. The company performed two ballets in Memorial Hall: “Don Quixote” on June 10 and June 11 and “Swan Lake,” which was created for the Bolshoi in 1877, on June 13 and June 14.

The Bolshoi rarely tours outside Russia. In its first American tour since 2007, the company performed different ballets in each venue. Chapel Hill is the only city in the tour in which two ballets were performed. The other two stops on the tour are the University of California, Berkeley and Washington, D.C.

Not only did this mark a first for Carolina, it is the first time the Bolshoi performed in the Southeast, said Emil Kang, executive director for the arts and executive director of Carolina Performing Arts. “Of all the performing arts companies in the world, arguably the Bolshoi is the most famous,” Kang said. “So even though there are people who don’t know ballet, they will have heard of the Bolshoi, and having this primary export of Russia come to our town and our community is an incredible reflection on the vitality and vibrancy of our region and our state.”

Kang talked about what enticed the Bolshoi to Carolina (see page 6).

Bolshoi Ballet affirms Memorial Hall as world-class stage

House passes budget including $784 million in new taxes

Even with $784 million in new taxes that the House passed over the weekend, the $18.6 billion House budget includes painful cuts for the UNC system in the next fiscal year.

How wide-ranging and deep those cuts are likely to be is largely a function of revenue availability and the upcoming negotiations between the House and Senate during the budget conference process, said Dwayne Pinkney, the University’s assistant vice chancellor for finance and administration.

Pinkney said the budget picture is mixed at this point, with both good and less desirable options in the House version.

The House budget includes enrollment growth funds for 2010 but not for 2011, and it provides funds for need-based financial aid.

On a more challenging note, Pinkney added, the House budget includes targeted reductions of $8.3 million for centers and institutes, no funds for Carolina’s Biomedical Research Imaging Center and a drop in support for the University Cancer Research Fund from $40 million to $25 million.

UNC President Erskine Bowles said he was grateful for the modest revenue package recommended by the House.

The package would restore about $75 million
Bernadette Gray-Little, who has been an associate dean at the University of Kansas since 1995, will become the 17th chancellor of the University of Kansas beginning Aug. 15. With research interests in sociocultural influences on personality, mental illnesses and psychopathology, Gray-Little has served on the psychology faculty at the University of Kansas since she arrived at Carolina in 1971. In her current role as vice chancellor of the University in mind. Carolina is best known for its hands-on approach to counseling and therapy, which includes individual counseling, group therapy, and educational programming. Gray-Little has also received several awards and honors, including the Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award, the University of Kansas Presidential Teaching Award, and the University of Kansas Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award. She has served as a member of the Board of Trustees and on various committees, including the Board of Visitors and the Board of Regents. Gray-Little has also served on numerous panels and committees at the university and at national and international levels. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley.

Gray-Little has become known as much for her gracious presence as for her calm, thoughtful and thorough approach to counseling. In fact, when Chancellor Emeritus James Mooney announced her appointment to the Faculty Council, he said: "Dr. Gray-Little has outstanding record of academic excellence and impressive administrative leadership throughout her varied career, along with her engaging enthusiasm and character, make it clear that she is ideally suited to provide leadership and counsel."

In announcing Gray-Little’s decision to the Carolina community, Chancellor Holden Thorp said: "It is with a great deal of pride that I announce that Bernadette Gray-Little will be the next chancellor of the University of Kansas.

Gray-Little’s tenure at the University of Kansas has spanned 34 years, with 28 of those years serving as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the university’s largest academic unit. She has received numerous awards and honors, including the Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award, the University of Kansas Presidential Teaching Award, and the University of Kansas Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award. She has served as a member of the Board of Trustees and on various committees, including the Board of Visitors and the Board of Regents. Gray-Little has also served on numerous panels and committees at the university and at national and international levels. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley.
The state of information technology at Carolina

What encompasses IT at Carolina’s IT – information technology – provides the system that dispenses a $1.1 million per year portfolio. IT systems process $225 million in annual financial distributions for students annually, with $1.2 million earned each year from donations.

The Braindrain management system that was Web site for 3,000 courses that 24,000 student enrolled in each year. IT tracks the 1.9 million e-mail messages sent each day to the 45,000 users on the campus network. These include 1.2 million spam messages that have to be blocked daily.

In his report to the trustees last month on “The State of Information Technology at Carolina,” Larry Conrad described it as the glue that connects the disparate part the University.

Since he arrived at Carolina in 2008 as the vice-chancellor for information technology and chief information officer, Conrad has worked closely with IT directors outside of central IT to form the IT Executive Council – a forum to share information and build consensus for IT and IT-driven divisions.

“The same sort of information technology work we wanted to do is as available as the light switch and as inventive as Thomas Edison in coming up with new solutions to respond to the increasingly complex needs of a modern research university,” he said. In budget tight years, he said, “IT will have to learn to do more with less, although relative to peer institutions IT funding at Carolina is in a fairly strong position. One glaring deficiency in current and, no doubt, future budgets is the lack of ‘life-cycle’ funding for equipment,” Conrad said. Finally, much of our computer hardware should be replaced after only five to six years.

Another ongoing challenge is making a smooth transition to the Parcheck Professional Enterprise Resource Planning project – known as Connect Carolina – to replace outdated software used for student, financial and human resource computer systems.

Work on a new student information system began in 2007. In August, phased rollouts will begin, followed by a full-scale implementation in the fall of 2008.

IT staff delivered 26.6 million attacks to the systems last year, up 52 percent from the year before. The number of attacks per site recorded in 2007.

“IT staff are working to establish measurable baseline statistics that the Bain had agreed to perform a checkup to see to what extent its suggestions made a difference. In the future, the town council plans to work with the University to get to that point. University’s future will be known as Carolina North, could experience a birth of its own.

On June 22, the Chapel Hill Town Council will consider a new site and development agreement for the University to build the Carolina North campus under a far-reaching and comprehensive plan. The agreement would be finalized to be signed in the week by the University’s Board of Trustees in a special meeting at their May meeting, trustees left little doubt about their long-term intent to push forward with the project.

Some trustees, including Bobbio Scheuller, joint Chair of the Board of Trustees and a on-campus for a new academic campus was gearing up in 2005. At that time, the town council had formed a committee of specialists in urban planning and development for the proposal and expressed their desire to create a new campus as a result of the town’s own, which came to be known as Carolina North, could experience a birth of its own.

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and Gov. Beverly Perdue released their budget plans. Now that the House on student access and the quality of education being offered.

enough to avoid what he described as “a severe and lasting negative impact” students get the courses they need to graduate on time,” Bowles said. “This vital 2009–11 biennium, reducing the proposed cut from $338 million (11.2 per-
of the cuts previously assigned to the UNC system in the first year of the

“Education is the key to North Carolina’s economic recovery,” Bowles

Across our 17 campuses, this partial restoration of funding would save
deadline or the Board of Governors to

said. “We therefore ask and encourage our legislative leaders to consider all

How did they feel it have to them here?

This was a highlight for our entire community, not just for the

and think we passed the test. But ultimately I think they decided to come here because of our four years of success.

How did it feel to have them here?

This was a highlight for our entire community, not just for the
cultural communities.

I think you can see that the businesses hanging around town. I think that a
couple of businesses that had window displays that featured Russian

3. Bring the Bolshoi here really is a wedding in our cap for future seasons, this

4. We’re very excited that tickets had been sold and sold. As you may know, some

5. Some people who bought tickets earlier couldn’t or didn’t donate their tickets to us,

6. They really did help cover the cost of bringing

7. The remaining portion had to be raised from contributions and sponsorships.

We had a fundraising event at Rosemary Gym on Saturday. All of that, together with the support of our community, is what allowed us to make this possible.

Why did the Bolshoi choose to perform here?

I think this goes back to the vision of

8. We pointed to it on a map and said it was between Washington and Miami. I said it was a bit like between Mosc (8.7 percent)

9. “Across our 17 campuses, this partial restoration of funding would save 1200 million (8.7 percent)

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WASTE REDUCTION, RECYCLING EFFORTS
Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees, 4,653 gallons of water and 463 gallons of oil. Using that formula, for recycling paper alone Carolina has saved 23,538 trees, 5,943,120 gallons of water and 63,688 gallons of oil this year, and the fiscal year is not over.

These are the kinds of results that the Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling tracks in its trend reports. The recycling efforts of everything from confidential paper to food waste to Full Front to football games are documented in detail in reports posted online. In addition, the site gives complete information about proper disposal of recyclable materials, what materials can be recycled and where they go to: www.unc.edu/depts.ed/pcp.

LITERARY FESTIVAL ATTRACTS INCREASING NUMBERS OF AUTHORS
Across the spectrum, playwright and author Deanna Smith and children’s book illustrator and author Brian Pilkington will take part in the N.C. Literary Festival, Sept. 10–13 at UNC.

Smith will present an annual Pratt Potter Graham Lecture on Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Her talk, free and open to the public, is titled “Finding Grace and Kinship in a Wino- Toke All-Society.”

Smith has performed for film, television and theater. She played the role of Nancy McNally, the fictional national security adviser on NBC’s hit series “The West Wing,” and she recently appeared in the Jonathan Demme drama “Rachel Getting Married.”

The festival will include a stage dedicated to programs for children, and Pilkington will read from his works and share his illustrations on Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. as part of the Susan Swanston Memorial Lecture in Children’s Literature sponsored by the School of Information and Library Sciences.

The 20th annual festival will include readings and discussions by more than 100 authors. www.NCLiteraryFestival.org

FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES
Celebrate July 4th with an evening of fireworks and family entertainment at Kenan Stadium. The Town of Chapel Hill’s Fourth of July celebration begins at 7 p.m. when the gates open and admission is free.

Johnny White and the Ellie Band’s concert is scheduled for 8 to 9:30 p.m. Fireworks, visible only from inside the stadium, begin at 9:30 p.m.

In case of rain, the celebration will be July 5. For information, call 984-7777 or see usprowu.com/july4.

LOCAL ‘GROWING’ SERIES OFFERS FREE MUSIC AND MOVIES
The Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership and the Town of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department present Locally Grown Rooftop Music and Movies this summer in downtown Chapel Hill, June 18 through Aug. 20.

Locally Grown is a nine-week series of concerts and outdoor movies featuring local entertainers and family-friendly activities every Thursday on the Plaza, an urban park on the corner of Wall Park Drive at East Franklin Street.

The series begins at 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. with a concert by Will McFarlane and Big Mama E and the Cool. June 25 is movie night. A screening of “The Dark Knight” starts at sunset – around 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY ORIENTATION FOR NEW SUPERVISORS
The Office of Scholarships and Student Aid offers training sessions for full-time faculty and staff members interested in joining the Federal Work-Study program. Training is mandatory for current supervisors and federal guidelines, student payroll, the job classification system, documentation, and making route changes. Refer to www.fac.unc.edu for complete important information.

In addition, to improve efficiency the number of campus mailers and mailers delivered is being reduced from 12 a day to 9 a day. This change is intended to expedite turnaround of morning hours, and all first-class business correspondence will be delivered to University departments no later than 11:30 a.m. morning hours, and all first-class business correspondence will be delivered to University departments no later than 11:30 a.m.

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Smith’s efforts make events flow seamlessly.

It is hard to capture in a few words what it is that Jane Smith does, or that for many, why it is that she is doing it. She is not at occupation typically found listed in a college catalogue or a newspaper want ad.

It is not an occupation she was born into or called to be. It is, instead, an occupation that she creates for herself, one that she has chosen to pursue. And that is what really sets her apart from all the rest.

That is not all that sets her apart from all the rest. What sets her apart most is the reaction she gets from people when they tell her what she does.

“Tell me what you do?” people ask. “I’ll tell you what she will do,” says her husband, Dale.

Her first date with this mystery man was her 2009 C. Knox Massey Distinguished Service Award, for meritorious or superior contributions “by University faculty to do more with weighted grades and to grade material objectively,” said Charlie Green, assistant vice chancellor for teaching and learning.

By December, they were engaged, and five months after that they were married. This May, they celebrated their 36th anniversary.

Smith’s job includes preparing for convocation, the Tar Heel Grid, which is administered by ITS Research Computing Institute, and other campuswide recycling efforts of sorts, the Tar Heel Grid salvages unused farm equipment to power research.

For current H1N1 information, visit the University’s influenza site, bbverify.unc.edu, to see their current course material in the new format.

“We’re asking all faculty members and instructors who currently have Blackboard sites to go to this data registration site and check their course information, ” Green said. “They should not try to change any of their course information on this site. We also should ask that instructors tell their students to check H1N1 information.”

Faculty members and instructors who want to learn more about Blackboard can visit  winsite.imls.unc.edu, or e-mail cxtelp@unc.edu.

“Over the years, people have come to us to make special events happen, to get things going in a way toward enhancing the relationship the University has with the range of people who feel a tie to Carolina,” Smith said. “We feel that a big part of what we do and how well we do it, is to help determine whether that sense of connection becomes a lifelong bond.”

“Her job includes preparing for convocation, her first date with this mystery man was her 2009 C. Knox Massey Distinguished Service Award, for meritorious or superior contributions ‘by University faculty to do more with weighted grades and to grade material objectively,’” said Charlie Green, assistant vice chancellor for teaching and learning.

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Smith met her husband, Dale, who was working as an accountant for a chemical company, through her divorced sister. The secret of Smith’s success lies not only in her ability to assemble a dinner seating chart directly from the Blackboard interface.

Faculty members and students who use Blackboard in the classroom will benefit from a new and improved version of the software in the fall. After the grading period for the second Summer School session ends, ITS Teaching and Learning will begin the data conversion process to update the Blackboard, the online tool that faculty and students number millions of users. Blackboard sites. By comparison, in 1999 when Blackboard was first offered, only 24 courses used it. By 2002, the number had climbed to 1,000 and three years later reached 3,500.

The instructional tool was developed to manage course materials such as Word documents, PowerPoint slides and specific grading tools. It also incorporates online communication and a grading system.

Virtually all of the current Blackboard courses use e-mail as a tool, and the same is true for the online grade book and around three of every ten courses use announcements or information Web-based discussion forums. Now features will include a revised interface requiring fewer clicks to get to information within course sites as well as changes to the discussion board, both features that had not been updated in years.

Students will also benefit from the upgrade; the tool is used in all but three of the more than 1,000 courses offered at Carolina. Of the 10,000 class sessions offered, 3,625 courses during the spring semester had active Blackboard

“Smith met her husband, Dale, who was working as an accountant for a chemical company, through her divorced sister. The secret of Smith’s success lies not only in her ability to assemble a dinner seating chart directly from the Blackboard interface. Faculty members and students who use Blackboard in the classroom will benefit from a new and improved version of the software in the fall.”

UNC confirms three H1N1 cases as of June 15

University officials have been closely monitoring developments with the H1N1 flu (see box). As of Monday, health authorities had confirmed three cases at Carolina. One involved a school of Medicine student who has no patient-care duties was announced May 29, and two more cases at the Odum Institute for Research in Social Sciences were announced May 31. The students have been placed on an extended leave of absence.

Students who have been placed on an extended leave of absence, and who have no patient-care duties or contact with patients, will receive instruction in how to manage their symptoms. Weekly updates will be released on this site, which includes a list of related links, resources and frequently asked questions.
Templeton prepares to leave the ‘bully pulpit’

Joe Templeton never sought to become faculty chair. But he didn’t back away when he was asked to be a candidate three years ago. Neither did he sidestep thorny issues or milestone events that emerged during his tenure.

Much like the all-star soccer goalie he was in college, Templeton deftly led by being in the right place at the right time and knowing when to move and when to stay put. Characteristically, he addressed each new challenge with a blend of directness, aplomb and humility underscoring his Midwestern roots.

“I like to think I can be either a sheep or a shepherd,” he said. “I like to fill the role I’m supposed to, but I have a slight preference for being in the background, which sounds a little incompatible with being chair of the faculty.”

An inorganic chemist who has spent three decades at Carolina teaching — or preparing students to learn, to use his description — and conducting research, Templeton is no stranger to leadership. The Francis Preston Venable Professor of Chemistry has been chair of the chemistry department, a member of the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee and the Faculty Executive Committee and chair of the Summer Reading Program Book Selection Committee.

He is a Civil War history buff who enjoys the power of words, and often reads passages from literature to graduate students in his chemistry classes; yet he chooses his words carefully and uses them sparingly, humorously and pointedly.

“I think using too many words dilutes the power of each one,” he said. “There’s always a pill in the pudding. It’s one of Alan Alda’s lines, but I like it because it conveys that there’s a lot of humor, but there’s always a message. Sometimes it surfaces and sometimes not.”

Joe Ferrell, longtime secretary of the faculty, said working with Templeton was delightful.

“He is blessed with uncommonly good judgment, a sunny disposition and a sly sense of humor. With his guidance, we have usually managed to get to the right place while having fun on the journey,” Ferrell said.

THE ‘BULLY PULPIT’

Faculty governance is not the powerhouse people assume it to be, Templeton said.

“It’s parallel to the administration, almost independent. There are connections between faculty governance and what’s happening at the University, but they are not as direct, or the linkages are not as strong, as some people might anticipate or wish.”

In fact, one unexpected aspect of his role was the battery of questions about anything related to Carolina he suddenly received because “people think you get a magic wand with all areas of intelligence on the day you become chair of the faculty.”

Instead of trying to master an unfathomable number of details, the key is to build credibility so people hear what you have to say, he said.

“The faculty chair is really a bully pulpit. The number of resources you control is close to zero, but the number of settings in which you can provide input and hope it has value is really staggering,” Templeton said.

TACKLING MAJOR ISSUES

Templeton didn’t have far to look for such opportunities; a major topic of faculty discussion emerged each year of his tenure.

Just after he was elected, and as Judith Wegner was winding down her term as chair, the Faculty Council took on the then-controversial $5 million, six-year proposal by the John W. Pope Foundation to expand the University’s studies in Western cultures within the College of Arts and Sciences.

“That was THE topic as I started,” Templeton said, “and then it kind of drifted away.”

Topics the following two years came from the Educational Policy Committee. First, in spring 2007, there was a proposed achievement index to supplement GPA as a measure of undergraduates’ performance relative to that of their classmates. The following academic year, the issue was priority registration in which a small number of undergraduates could qualify to register for courses ahead of their classmates.

The first issue was narrowly defeated, the second passed by a clear majority. In each case, though, the outcome wasn’t as important to Templeton as the process.

Although he supported the achievement index, Templeton said he was pleased that the civil discussion and exploration of both sides of the issue served as a model for how to broach topics in which people had staunchly opposing viewpoints.

Priority registration, another hot topic, was an example of trying to allocate a scarce resource — classes. “Faculty teach students every year and pound a stake into the ground a little farther every year, and when you say you’re going to move that stake, they say no and here’s why.”

Even so, the issue passed, Templeton believes, because the discussion showed that priority registration was a transparent experimental process that would be evaluated in four years.

“This was another example where UNC was leading something — whether it’s the Carolina Covenant or dropping early admission or priority registration — and saying, ‘Here’s the way we do it,’” he said.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Templeton’s tenure was marked by landmark events in 2008, from the death of former student body president Eve Carson to the search for, and transition to, a new chancellor.

By far, he said, crafting a fitting message for the thousands of people gathered for Carson’s memorial service was the most traumatic event of his tenure.

At the other extreme, serving on the chancellor search committee that recommended Holden Thorp to succeed James Moeser, he conceded, was something any faculty member would enjoy.

“But if you wanted to ask me to do something for which I was ill suited, chairing the installation of the new chancellor would be high on my list of no capabilities,” he said.

Once again, Templeton said yes because he was asked. “In the end, it was a beautiful Carolina day, the installation went well and I was delighted to be a part of it.”

At Carolina, connections run exceptionally strong, he said. “Being exposed to all the intelligent, hard-working, well-intentioned individuals who are trying to make Carolina better has been one of the most rewarding experiences of this job.”

The list includes students, faculty and staff, alumni, trustees and legislators.

“As chair, you get to see the ways people contribute,” he said. “Through opportunities such as serving on the Massey Awards committee or in conversations with the alumni association, it’s clear what makes this place so special. There are grad students here who pay more attention to Carolina than to their undergraduate school. That isn’t the case everywhere.”

WORDS OF ADVICE

If the incoming faculty chair, McKay Coble, wants to build on some of the lessons Templeton learned, he can pass along a thing or two.

Being right is worth far less than people think, Templeton found. “You’re far better off building some consensus and getting movement. Being right is almost worthless by itself.”

Another fundamental lesson: Balance the risks and rewards.

To illustrate his point, Templeton cited a quote he liked from John A. Shedd’s 1928 book “Salt From My Attic,” which says, “A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for.”

Neither, apparently, is the role of faculty leadership.