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## Minus student input, Adams outlines \$100 fee use

By RAISA HABERSHAM  
THE RED & BLACK

The University will use the \$100 special spring semester fee to pay for services such as faculty salaries, electricity bills and outreach, University President Michael Adams said Thursday. The money, which all students must pay by Jan. 22, will be placed in a general fund.

A group of students complained to the Board of Regents their input wasn't considered before the BOR decided Wednesday to approve the fee. When deliberating, the regents waived a policy that requires 50 percent student input on fee increases. No student input will be considered on the allocation. "This is a special circumstances

fee. I don't think this will be the last time [they] will see a fee and that it will be this low," Adams said at the University Cabinet meeting. "I believe UGA's tuition is too low to remain of quality. I understand that there are possibilities that the budget cut will increase more than 8 percent." Adams said the University will do a better job warning students about fees. More severe budget

cuts could force students to pay in the future, he said. The regents also passed a policy Wednesday to add a 5 percent reduction in University employees' health plans. "I understand the regents' decisions, and I do believe that the more we involve students, the better we all are," Adams said. "[The University] took prudent action to prepare for the 8 per-

cent budget cut." With this plan, the University must deal with a \$39.7 million budget reduction, up \$10 million from the 6 percent budget cut plan in place earlier this semester. Despite the cuts, University employees will receive salary raises. The minimum salary for

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### THE X FACTOR

Editor's Note: This is the last in a five-day series exploring the status of women at the University.

## Keeping minority women on campus priority

By AMANDA WOODRUFF  
THE RED & BLACK

When Dawn Bennett-Alexander decided to leave the University of North Florida in 1988 to accept a job in the Terry College of Business, her sister had one question: did Athens, Ga. have paved roads? Such was the perception for many minorities of the University at the time — that it was rural and lacked diversity. Minorities were so scarce, in fact, then-University President Charles Knapp offered departments incentives to hire more black faculty.

"I don't think it was a secret," Bennett-Alexander said. Word spread that departments could hire more permanent line faculty if they increased diversity, and "departments started scrambling."

When Bennett-Alexander came on staff, there was a certain personal obligation to be there for black students as a role model and support system, she said.

"I kept thinking about Martin Luther King Jr. — if not you, who?"

The University has come far in two decades. Minorities made up 15 percent of faculty and staff in 2007, though only 31 percent of them were female. The trick today is no longer just how to attract a more diverse faculty pool to Athens — it's how to keep them here, too.

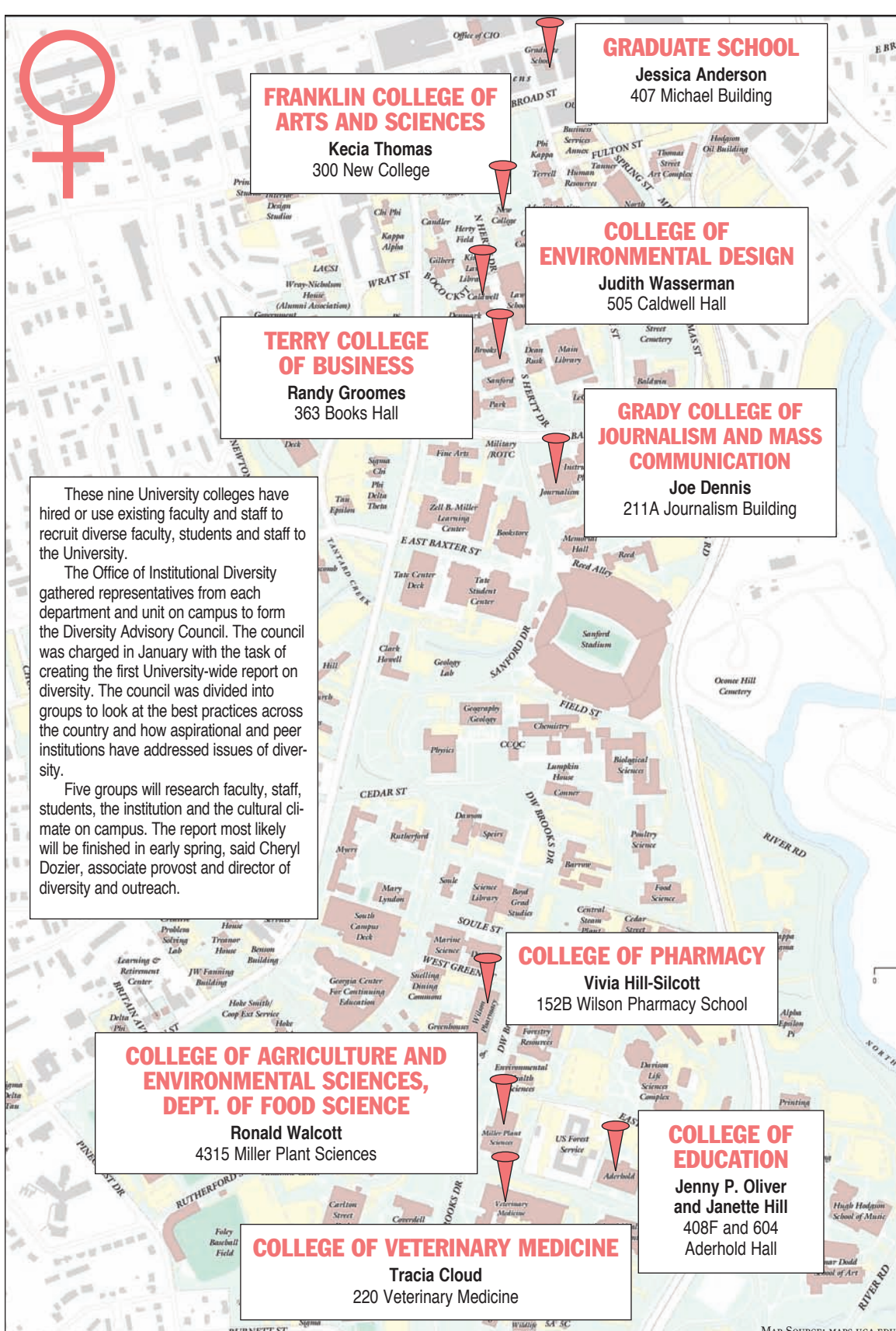
For minority women on campus, finding a support system can be difficult. When there are only a handful of faculty members of color in a department, the University faces challenges in the effort to make them feel not alone.

"The piece we have to focus on is retaining

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### ON THE WEB

To catch up on the series, go to [www.redandblack.com](http://www.redandblack.com)



## Council: Students must rally amid crisis

Low wage workers among concerned

By VINCE HAMPTON  
THE RED & BLACK

The national economic crisis and University budget cuts and their effects dominated Thursday's University Council meeting.

"We're facing an economic crisis of a magnitude not seen since World War II," said University President Michael Adams, who addressed the \$100 special spring student fee.

"All employees and all students have a role to play in addressing this budget crisis," he said.

Adams' opening remarks stressed the seriousness of the situation and the University's ability to overcome the hard times. The \$100 fee is part of a "tiered approach" to address the budget crunch.

"Students are being asked to step up," he said.

Adams also acknowledged the University's contribution to decreases in employee PPO and HMO health care plans, but he said now is the time for those with jobs and benefits to be thankful they have them at all.

The state and national economic reality guided the Board of Regents' decision to approve the fee, but the BOR was being "prudent" in its action, Adams said.

"As much as I regret increases, I do believe they are justified," he said.

Stuart Ivy, president of the Staff Council, expressed concern that budget changes would affect low wage workers more and asked the council to consider the ramifications.

Additionally, the council approved a proposal to combine the fisheries and wildlife majors. David Shipley, curriculum committee chair, said the combination is intended to bring in more students.

The council also approved proposals to offer an adult education major at the Gwinnett campus and terminate the instructional psychology, training and technology majors.



ADAMS

## Injured student fights for life of normalcy

By HARPER BRIDGERS  
FOR THE RED & BLACK

About 3 percent of University students are disabled and each story is different.

Many were born with a handicap, and others acquired it later. Whether temporary or indefinite, both are life-changing. One pre-medicine student suddenly found himself paralyzed from the shoulders down during his sophomore year. He was knocked off his feet but refuses to be stuck in the undertow of inability.

Woody Morgan, a junior from Atlanta, was swimming in the ocean during a spring break trip to Destin, Fla. on March 9. He dove into a wave before its crest met the sand, and his friend, junior Lauren Hoffman, thought Morgan

was joking as he floated up motionless. Hoffman and other friends on the trip soon discovered it was no game.

Morgan had sustained a massive injury to the C-5 and C-6 sections of his spinal cord.

"It could have been the water, the way it hit me," he said. "There was a sandbar and the wave could've hit my head into the sandbar — [it was] just really bad timing." But no one knows exactly how it occurred, he said.

After airlifting Morgan from the beach to Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, Fla., Morgan's family airlifted and checked him into the Shepherd Center of Atlanta, a hospital that specializes in spinal and brain injuries.

His mother, Nell Morgan, remembered him waking up, delu-

sional in the hospital. With an oxygen tube down his throat, he repeatedly mouthed "What happened? What happened?"

While lying in the Shepherd Center Intensive Care Unit, only three days after the accident, Morgan slipped into cardiac arrest. A blood clot moved from his leg into his heart.

"That was scary," he said. "I just passed out ... I remember waking up and everything was white, I couldn't see anything really. I was gasping for air. It felt like I was in water ... I couldn't get a breath."

Morgan was near death twice in three days, but he only remembered one time, he said.

Morgan was unable to finish his

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▲ Junior Woody Morgan made the choice to return to the University after a devastating spinal cord injury forced him into indefinite physical therapy.

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Think driving one hour on Highway 316 to get home is bad? See how far some students have to travel for the holidays, and what they look forward to the most.



### Sports, sports, sports page 1B

Check out our massive sports section — a little athletic gift from us to you. From bowl previews to a profile of the men's golf head coach, we've got it all.

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