

Kaleidoscope

serving the students of the University of North Carolina at Asheville

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Teachers appalling? Try appealing!

By Kerri Pace

The Student Academic Appeals Board is a new organization designed to settle grievances between students and teachers. The Board intervenes when the instructor and student cannot settle the problem themselves.

The purpose of the student grievance procedure is to provide the student with a formal process for seeking a resolution when, in his judgment, he has been treated unfairly or improperly in an academic matter by a faculty member.

What is unfair or improper treatment? It is defined as:

- *the instructor's failure to abide by stated University policies, or failure to abide by written or stated course policies in such a way as to adversely affect the student's academic standing;

- *abusive or improper conduct on the part of the instructor that clearly has an adverse affect on the student's academic standing;

- *the instructor's unfounded charge of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism or presenting false information; and or

- *the instructor's prejudiced or capricious grading practices.

If a student believes that he or she has been treated unfairly or improperly by a faculty member, six steps must be followed.

Step 1: A conference must be scheduled with the instructor to discuss the matter. The student must explain his or her position to the instructor and attempt to understand the justification for the instructor's actions. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to reach a mutual understanding and resolve all differences in an informal, cooperative manner.

Step 2: If it is impractical to consult with the instructor, or if the student is unsatisfied with the results of Step 1, the student should seek the assistance of the faculty conciliator. The conciliator is a non-voting member of the Appeals Committee whose role is to guide the student through the remaining steps.

Step 3: With step 3 begins a time limit to be followed for the remaining steps. Within five class days the conciliator must meet with the instructor and the chairman of the instructor's department in order to seek an agreeable solution. If the student is dissatisfied with the outcome of the conciliator's meeting he or she may proceed to step 4 and file a formal grievance.

Step 4: To file a grievance the student must obtain a grievance form from the conciliator. This filing must occur within 20 class days of the incident or of the time a student could reasonably be expected to know of the incident. Failure to meet this deadline forfeits the right of appeal. The conciliator must immediately forward a copy of the petition to the instructor, the instructor's department chairman, and the chairperson of the Academic Appeals Board.

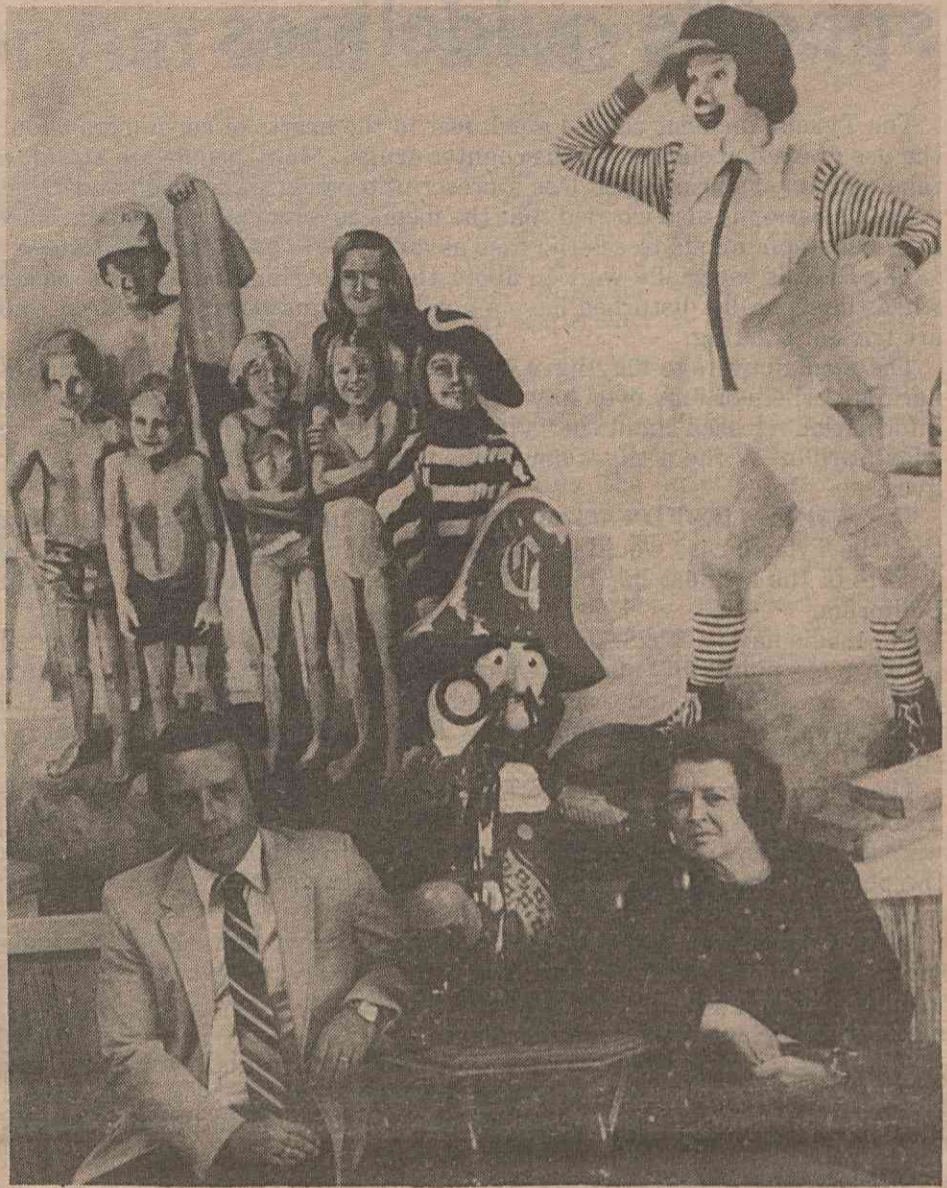
Step 5: The Academic Appeals Board shall meet within five to 10 class days after the receipt of the grievance petition.

In a closed hearing, the student shall present the grievance. The instructor shall be given opportunity to respond to the charges.

After the case has been deliberated the Academic Appeals Board will vote.

The Appeals Board consists of four faculty members plus one alternate, and three students plus one alternate. The chairman of the Board is Dr. John Bernhardt. The other faculty members are Dr. Wilsonia Cherry, Dr. Peggy Downes, Martha Marshall, and Joe Sulock. Dr. Downes is the faculty conciliator, a non-voting member of the Appeals Board.

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Larry Carter (L), district supervisor of McDonald's, and Elma Johnson of the UNCA art department are seated in front of the mural painted by Johnson and Saralyn Spradling in the Merrimon Avenue McDonald's.

Staff photo by David Pickett

McDonald's mural adds art to eating

By Elise Henshaw

Together Elma Johnson of the UNCA art department and Ronald McDonald of hamburger fame have created a unique combination of a fast food restaurant and an art gallery.

The Merrimon Avenue McDonald's with its gallery space for art shows, is the result of a promise Johnson made to the vice-president of McDonald's to decorate a store for the chain.

"I want it to be considered a professional gallery with high quality art work," Johnson said. McDonald's gave her a free hand to do whatever she wanted to in the store. "I keep it going, change the shows, even clean the cases sometimes," she said.

The shows she arranges include student art work as well as works from local groups and nearby communities. The present show is by

the Mountain Area Artists from Weaverville.

The relationship between the UNCA art department and McDonald's began several years ago. In 1975 the art department, housed in the humanities building and cramped for space, moved the three dimensional arts into a vacant grocery store on Merrimon Avenue. Later, the building was purchased by McDonald's, which notified the art department that it would have to vacate. The Owen Building, the eventual home of the department, was still two years from completion.

After an unsuccessful search for a new location, Johnson spent six weeks trying to reach the president of McDonald's to request use of the portion of the building not being utilized by the chain.

She finally succeeded and was instructed to contact Bruce Wunner, continued on page 8



Dr. Russ Reynolds warms up with a cup of coffee at the Autumn Walk, held Oct. 16. See related story on page 3.

Staff photo by David Pickett