

UNCA proposes engineering program

By Elise Henshaw

The UNCA board of trustees agreed last week to request authorization to plan a degree program in industrial engineering.

The board of trustees will submit the request to the general administration of the Board of Governors of the state university system. "No program can be started or cancelled without their approval," said William E. Highsmith, UNCA chancellor.

Highsmith said this is only the first step in a long process, to be followed before the program becomes a reality. This original request "is a concept, and gives only broad general information," said Highsmith. If approved, the second stage, a request for authorization to establish the program, involves sub-



UNCA presented N.C. Governor Jim Hunt with a proposal for a school of engineering last week.

Staff photo by Carol Whitener

mitting a specific plan with cost figures, equipment needs and faculty requirements.

The industrial engineering program was chosen, Highsmith said, because, "first, there is a substantial demand for industrial engineering in Western North Carolina, and second, it is the degree program that has the smallest requirement for equipment. It is oriented toward management, personnel management and design. Industrial engineers design and develop the productive system. They are skilled in math, statistics, cost analysis and work flow."

Using the available facilities on campus, plus other sites in the area, the program could be facilitated without further building according to Highsmith. "By starting with an

industrial engineering program, we can start without too great difficulties. What it will lead to (an eventual school of engineering) we will just have to see in the future," he said.

UNCA did not initiate the idea of the program, said Highsmith. "Industrialists of the area began to recognize several years ago the importance engineering in this area would have." Community support of the program has come from the Asheville City Council, Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, Chamber of Commerce, Land of Sky Regional Council and the Manufacturing Executives Association.

Vice Mayor Norma Price said she sees the proposed program as "an economic opportunity to improve

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Sociology major offered

By Elise Henshaw

In response to numerous student requests, Dr. Phyllis Otti of the sociology department has developed a program option in social welfare. The program, which was approved by the Faculty Senate last spring, is based on recommendations from the National Council on Social Work Education.

Students in the program earn a bachelor's degree in sociology with a concentration in social work methods courses and a directed internship in local human services agencies.

The program requires completion of the regular core courses for a

sociology major, as well as the special social welfare sequence for a total of 36 hours. In addition to these courses, students would select 24 hours of correlate courses from the departments of psychology, economics, political science, management, and philosophy. Correlate courses are chosen in an effort to meet student's individual interests, and perhaps enable a student to minor in a second discipline.

For additional information on the program or employment opportunities in the social welfare and human services field, contact Dr. Otti in ZSS109 or call 258-6421.

Assault reported by UNCA student

Asheville police are investigating a rape reported Jan. 25 at UNCA.

Detective Nancy Penland said the incident occurred on the night of Jan. 20 in the high-rise dormitory after the victim, a 22-year-old female dorm resident, attended a UNCA basketball game.

"The victim had been to a party on campus," Penland said. "Drinking and partying" were involved; after the party the victim was allegedly raped, according to Penland.

It appears that more than one person participated in the assault according to sources close to the investigation.

When asked about the incident, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Eric Iovacchini, said that the UNCA

campus police are investigating a reported assault.

Penland said that after the investigation was completed, police intend to turn the case over to District Attorney Ronald Brown to consider filing charges.

A male friend of the victim was charged with assaulting one of the suspects with a deadly weapon after hearing of the incident.

The victim's male friend said that according to the police warrant, the deadly weapon was a pair of boots. However, he told Kaleidoscope that he was not wearing boots at the time.

He also said that after the investigation was completed, he would release a statement to the Kaleidoscope.



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